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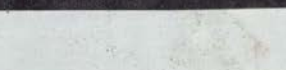

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SELECTIONS FROM THE RECORDS OF THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT.

No. XXVI.—New Series.

110043

ROUGH NOTES

CONTAINING HISTORICAL, STATISTICAL, AND OTHER INFORMATION CONNECTED WITH THE PETTY STATES OF JUNJEERA, AND JOWAR, IN THE TANNA COLLECTORATE; SUCHEEN, DHURUMPOOR, AND BANSDA, IN THE SURAT COLLECTORATE; CAMBAY, IN THE KAIRA COLLECTORATE; PENTH, IN THE NASIK SUB-COLLECTORATE; AND THE PETTY NATIVE STATES UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE COLLECTOR OF KHANDESH.

Historical Narrative

OF THE CITY OF CAMBAY, FROM SANSKRIT AND PERSIAN BOOKS, AND ORAL TRADITION; COMPRISING, ALSO, A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE PROVINCE OF GUZERAT AT VARIOUS PERIODS.

OBSERVATIONS

THE "BORE," OR RUSHING TIDE IN THE NORTHERN PARTS OF THE GULF OF CAMBAY, AND THE ENTRANCES OF THE MAHEE AND SABURMUTEE RIVERS.

PROCEEDINGS

CONNECTED WITH THE QUESTION OF SUCCESSION TO THE PENTH ESTATE, IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE DEATH, IN THE YEAR 1837, WITHOUT MALE ISSUE, OF DULPUT RAO, RAJA OF THAT PETTY PRINCIPALITY.

HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE BHEEL TRIBES INHABITING THE PROVINCE OF KHANDESH; ACCOMPANIED BY AN OUTLINE, DOWN TO THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1855, OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONCILIATORY LINE OF POLICY WHICH, FROM THE YEAR 1825, HAS BEEN OBSERVED TOWARDS THESE RUDE TRIBES BY THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT.

Compiled and Edited by R. Hughes Thomas, Assistant Secretary Political Department.

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1856.

ABSTRACT OF CONTENTS.

PAGES

JUNJEERA.—Rough Notes connected with the Petty Principality of Junjeera. By Mr. G. B. Seton Karr, Collector and Magistrate of Tanna; and by Mr. R. H. Showell, Deputy Collector and Magistrate of Tanna.—Submitted to Government in June 1854 and January 1855.. .. .. 1 to 12

JOWAR.—Rough Notes connected with the Petty Estate of Jowar, in the Tanna Collectorate. By Mr. Saville Marriott, Collector in the Northern Konkun; and by Mr. R. H. Showell, Deputy Collector and Magistrate of Tanna.—Submitted to Government in January 1823 and June 1854.. .. .. 13 to 24

SUCHEEN.—Rough Notes connected with the Sucheen Estate, in the Surat Collectorate. By Mr. W. H. Harrison, Agent for the Right Honorable the Governor.—Submitted to Government in June and July 1854 .. .. 25 to 31

DHURUMPOOR.—Rough Notes connected with the Dhurumpoor Estate, in the Surat Collectorate. By Mr. W. H. Harrison, Agent for the Right Honorable the Governor.—Submitted to Government in June and July 1854 .. .. 33 to 36

BANSDA.—Rough Notes connected with the Bansda Estate, in the Surat Collectorate. By Mr. W. H. Harrison, Agent for the Right Honorable the Governor at Surat.—Submitted to Government in June and July 1854 .. .. 37 to 41

CAMBAY.—Brief Notes connected with the Estate of Cambay, in the Kaira Collectorate. By Mr. J. E. Oliphant, Acting First Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Kaira.—Submitted to Government on the 8th July 1854 .. .. 43 to 50

CAMBAY.—Historical Narrative of the City of Cambay, from Sanskrit and Persian Books, and Oral Tradition; comprising a brief Sketch of the Province of Guzerat, at various periods. By Lieutenant H. D. Robertson, 5th Regiment Bombay N. I., Commanding (in 1813) the Escort of the Resident at Baroda.—Submitted to Government on the 13th September 1813 .. .. .. 51 to 82

"BORE" in the Gulf of Cambay.—Observations on the "Bore," or Rushing Tide in the Northern parts of the Gulf of Cambay, and the entrances of the Mahee and Saburmutee rivers. By Lieutenant R. Ethersey, Indian Navy.—Submitted to Government on the 13th March 1837.. .. .. 85 to 91

PAGES

PENTH ESTATE.—Historical, Statistical, and other Notes connected with the Penth Estate, in the Nasik Sub-Collectorate. By Mr. W. J. Turquand, Acting Sub-Collector of Nasik.—Submitted to Government on the 16th October 1854 .. .. 93 to 106

PENTH SUCCESSION.—Proceedings connected with the Question of Succession to the Penth Estate, in consequence of the death, in the year 1837, without male issue, of Dulput Rao, Raja of that Estate .. .. 107 to 162

KHANDESH PETTY STATES.—Narrative of British Relations with the Petty Native States within the limits of the Khandesh Collectorate. By Mr. S. Mansfield, Collector and Magistrate in that Zilla.—Submitted to Government on the 21st June 1854. 163 to 178

KHANDESH PETTY STATES.—Brief Notes, containing Miscellaneous Information connected with the Petty Native States under the control of the Collector of Khandesh. By Mr. S. Mansfield, Collector of that Zilla.—Submitted to Government on the 22nd September 1854 .. .. 179 to 199

BHEEL TRIBES OF KHANDESH.—Historical Sketch of the Bheel Tribes inhabiting the Province of Khandesh; accompanied by an Outline, down to the year 1843, of the Principles of the Conciliatory line of Policy which has been observed towards these rude Tribes, by the Bombay Government, from the year 1825. By Captain D. C. Graham, 19th Regiment Bombay N. I., Commanding the Bheel Corps in Khandesh. With continuation, from the year 1843 to the close of the year 1855, by Captain J. Rose, 3rd Bombay European Regiment, Second in Command, and Acting Commandant of the Khandesh Bheel Corps, &c.. 201 to 252

DETAILED LIST OF CONTENTS.

JUNJEERA.

PAGE

Rough Notes connected with the Petty Principality of Junjeera. By Mr. G. B. S. Karr, Collector and Magistrate of Tanna, and by Mr. R. H. Showell, Deputy Collector and Magistrate of that Zilla 1
Rough Notes by Mr. G. B. S. Karr 3
The Nuwab or Khan Saheb of Junjeera .. .. ib.
His sons .. .. ib.
Management of the estate .. .. ib.
The Khan's half brothers 4
Military force.. .. .. ib.
Villages of the territory .. .. ib.
Imposts or taxes .. .. ib.
British political relations with Junjeera 5
Miscellaneous information regarding Junjeera .. .. ib.
Rough Notes relative to Junjeera, by Mr. R. H. Showell 7
Treaty of Alliance, concluded on the 6th December 1733, by Messrs. Lowther and Dickinson, on the part of the Honorable East India Company, with the Seedees of Junjeera of Rajapooree; confirmed, on the 11th December 1733, by the Honorable Robert Cowan, President and Governor in Council.. 8
Separate Engagement between the Governments of Bombay and Junjeera of Rajapooree, agreed to and signed at the same time as the foregoing General Treaty of Alliance 11

JOWAR ESTATE.

Rough Notes connected with the Petty State of Jowar, in the Tanna Collectorate. By Mr. Saville Marriott, Collector in the Northern Konkun; and by Mr. R. H. Showell, Deputy Collector and Magistrate of Tanna .. 13
Letter from Mr. S. Marriott to the Governor of Bombay, dated 2nd January 1823 14
Memorandum annexed to the foregoing letter 19
Rough Notes by Mr. Showell 20
Miscellaneous information regarding the Jowar Estate. By Mr. Showell .. 22
Name, title, and age of the Chief of Jowar .. .. ib.
Usual place of residence .. .. ib.
Legitimate male issue.. .. .. ib.
Principal persons of the Court .. .. ib.

PAGE

Whether tributary or not 22
Estimated gross annual revenue .. .. ib.
Boundaries of territory, and estimated area in square miles.. .. .. ib.
Prevailing nature of the soil, and general features of the country .. .. ib.
Natural and industrial resources .. .. ib.
Routes, approaches, and means of communication by land and water .. ib.
Climate, and average fall of rain 23
Religion, language, tribes, and castes .. .. ib.
Brief notice of the mode of administering civil and criminal justice .. ib.
Nature of punishments 24
Educational measures.. .. .. ib.
Vaccination .. .. ib.
Prevalent diseases .. .. ib.

SUCHEEN.

Rough Notes connected with the Sucheen Estate, in the Surat Collectorate. By Mr. W. H. Harrison, Agent for the Right Honorable the Governor.. 25
Miscellaneous information connected with the Sucheen Estate 28
Agreement between the Honorable East India Company and the Peshwa, dated 6th June 1791 29
Translation of an Engagement entered into by Seedee Abdool Kureem, usually called Balloo Meah, with the Honorable Company's Resident at Poona .. 31

DHURUMPOOR.

Rough Notes connected with the Dhurumpoor Estate, in the Surat Collectorate. By Mr. W. H. Harrison, Agent for the Right Honorable the Governor 33
Miscellaneous information connected with the Dhurumpoor Estate 35

BANSDA.

Rough Notes connected with the Bansda Estate, in the Surat Collectorate. By Mr. W. H. Harrison, Agent for the Right Honorable the Governor.. 37
Miscellaneous information connected with the Petty State of Bansda .. 40

CAMBAY.

Brief Notes connected with the Estate of Cambay, in the Kaira Collectorate. By Mr. J. E. Oliphant, Acting First Assistant to the Collector and Magistrate of Kaira.. 43
Name, title, and age of the Chief of Cambay 44
Usual place of residence.. .. .. ib.
Names and ages of legitimate male issue, and of the principal persons of the Court .. .. ib.

PAGE
Whether tributary or not; if so, to whom, and annual amount of tribute .. 45
Estimated gross annual revenue .. .. ib.
Boundaries of territory, and estimated area in square miles 46
Prevailing nature of the soil, usual means of irrigation, and general features of the country .. .. ib.
Natural and industrial resources.. .. .. ib.
Routes, approaches, and means of communication by land and water.. .. ib.
Climate, average range of thermometer, and average annual fall of rain .. 47
Estimated population .. .. ib.
Religion, language, tribes, and castes .. .. ib.
Civil and criminal justice .. .. ib.
Nature of punishments for criminal offences 48
Educational measures .. .. ib.
Progress of Vaccination .. .. ib.
Prevalent diseases .. .. ib.
Paper by Mr. A. Summers, in medical charge, Cambay, alluded to in the foregoing Notes 49
Table exhibiting the range of thermometer, &c. .. .. ib.
Medical notes 50

Historical Narrative of the City of Cambay, from Sanskrit and Persian Books, and Oral Tradition; comprising a brief Sketch of the Province of Guzerat at various periods. By Lieutenant H. D. Robertson, 5th Regiment Bombay N. I., Commanding (in 1813) the Escort of the Resident at Baroda .. 51
Guzerat, its former inhabitants 52
Yezdijerd, the third King of Persia .. .. ib.
Parsees of Guzerat .. .. ib.
Their settlement in various places, and, among others, in Cambay .. .. ib.
The Parsee town set on fire, and the inhabitants driven out of Cambay by Kullian Rae 53
Kullian Rae rebuilds Cambay .. .. ib.
Notice of his buildings .. .. ib.
Purguna of Cambay named the Chowrasee Puguna 54
Sultan Vella-ood-deen Kheljee, of Delhi, and his Generals, Nusrut Khan Jaleseree and Ulug Khan .. .. ib.
Notice of the Kings of Guzerat.. .. .. ib.
Sultan Bahadoor, the tenth king 55
Appearance of the Portuguese at Cambay and Diu .. .. ib.
Murder of the Sultan by the Portuguese .. .. ib.
Notice of the time of the incursions of the Murathas, and the establishment of their power, under Rugoonath Rao .. .. ib.
Meerza Jaffer Nizam-i-Sanee, fifty-fourth Subedar of Guzerat, and founder of the Cambay family 56
Notices of Hyder Kulee Khan and Moobariz-ool-Moolk Sirbulund Khan, as Subas of Guzerat 57

PAGE

Rebellious designs of Moobaruz-ool-Moolk 58
Notice of Kunthajee and Pillajee .. .. ib.
Moobaruz-ool-Moolk removed, and Ubhi Sing appointed to the Government of Guzerat .. .. ib.
Wars between Ubhi Sing and Pillajee Rao 59
Murder of Pillajee .. .. ib.
Omanbaee sends an army into Guzerat .. .. ib.
Rutun Sing, and his army 60
Notice of Runkoojee, the Gaekwar Commander .. .. ib.
Meerza Jaffer Nuwab of Guzerat, with the title of Nizam-ood-Dowla Momin Khan 62
Treaty between Runkoo and Momin Khan, relative to the taxes 63
Nizam Khan 64
Muftukhur Khan confirmed in the Chiefship of Cambay by the Emperor of Delhi 65
Notice of Damajee Rao Gaekwar .. .. ib.
Juwan Murd Khan Babee 66
Rughoonath Rao, brother of the Peshwa 67
Partial destruction of the fort of Cambay during the rains of 1752 .. .. ib.
Bhugwunt Rao sent by the Peshwa to reduce Cambay 69
Noor-ood-deen seizes and confines Bhugwunt Rao, and appropriates to his own use the Peshwa's share of the revenues .. .. ib.
Continuation of disturbances 70
The Peshwa and Gaekwar combine againt Noor-ood-deen 72
Ahmedabad besieged, and eventually surrendered 73
Noor-ood-deen retires to Cambay .. .. ib.
Noor-ood-deen visits the Peshwa at Poona 74
Gunesh Appajee appointed Sirsuba of Guzerat .. .. ib.
Sooja-ood-Dowla orders Noor-ood-deen to drive the Murathas from Guzerat .. 75
Damajee Gaekwar sends his second son, Govind Rao, to aid Appajee .. .. ib.
Noor-ood-deen continues to oppress the people of Cambay 76
Cruelties of Noor-ood-deen .. .. ib.
His minister, Aga Rashid Beg .. .. ib.
Damajee Rao Gaekwar, and his sons 77
Dissensions in the Gaekwar family 78
General Stewart at Cambay .. .. ib.
Sir Charles Malet, the English Resident .. .. ib.
General Goddard in Guzerat 79
Notice of the Chouth of Cambay .. .. ib.
Kootbee Khanum 80
Death of Noor-ood-deen .. .. ib.
His character .. .. ib.
Mahomed Kulee succeeds .. .. ib.
Dies, leaving three sons 81
Futteh Ali succeeds .. .. ib.
Acts of Futteh Ali .. .. ib.
Conclusion 82

PAGE

Genealogical Table, framed in the year 1813, of the Family of the Nuwab of Cambay, and two Branches of the Dehlumee Family 83

"BORE" OF CAMBAY.

Observations on the "Bore," or Rushing Tide in the Northern parts of the Gulf of Cambay, and the entrances of the Mahee and Saburmutee rivers. By Lieutenant R. Ethersey, I. N. 85
Introduction 86
Situation of the Gulf .. .. ib.
Its channels .. .. ib.
Rivers emptying themselves into the Gulf .. .. ib.
Tides throughout the Gulf 87
The Eastern or principal Bore .. .. ib.
The Western Bore 89
Description of the Bore 90
Conclusion 91

PENTH ESTATE.

Historical, Statistical, and other Notes, connected with the Penth Estate, in the Nasik Sub-Collectorate. By Mr. W. J. Turquand, Acting Sub-Collector, Nasik 93
Name, title, and age of the Chief of Penth 94
Usual place of residence 95
Names and ages of legitimate male issue .. .. ib.
Whether tributary or not; if so, to whom, and annual amount of tribute .. ib.
Estimated gross annual revenue .. .. ib.
Boundaries of territory, and estimated area in square miles .. .. .. ib.
Prevailing nature of the soil, usual means of irrigation, and general features of the country .. .. ib.
Prevailing nature of the soil 97
Usual means of irrigation .. .. ib.
Natural resources 98
Industrial resources 101
Routes, approaches, and means of communication by land and water .. ib.
Climate, and average range of thermometer 102
Average annual fall of rain 103
Estimated population .. .. ib.
Religion, language, tribes, and castes .. .. ib.
Administration of civil and criminal justice 104
Nature of punishments for criminal offences 105
Educational measures .. .. ib.
Progress of vaccination .. .. ib.
Prevalent diseases .. .. ib.

PENTH SUCCESSION.

PAGE

Proceedings connected with the question of Succession to the Penth Estate, in consequence of the death, in the year 1837, without male issue, of Dulput Rao, Raja of that Estate 107
Letter from Mr. H. E. Goldsmid to the Secretary to Government, on the several points connected with the subject 108
The validity of the title by which the principality was held by the family of the late Raja .. .. ib.
The claims set forth by different parties, to the estate.. 113
Arguments and proof adduced by the Mahomedan and Hindoo parties .. 116
Catalogue of Sunuds 117
Table of the family of Luxdeer I. 122
Notice of the present Begum 128
The right of exacting Nuzurana.. 133
The right of interference with the management of the district.. 134
Appendix A 138
Appendix B 140
Appendix C 143
Appendix D 149
Appendix E 151

KHANDESH PETTY STATES.

Narrative of British Relations with the Petty Native States within the limits of the Khandesh Collectorate. By Mr. S. Mansfield, Collector and Magistrate in that Zilla 163

The Dang.

The Dang Country 164
Its boundaries.. .. .. ib.
Its divisions .. .. ib.
1. Dang Garvee .. .. ib.
2. Dang Wassoorna .. .. ib.
3. Dang Amallee .. .. ib.
4. Dang Dherbowtee .. .. ib.
5. Dang Pimpree .. .. ib.
6. Dang Owchar .. .. ib.
7. Dang Chinchlee.. .. .. ib.
Ages of the several Rajas .. .. ib.
The heirs of these Chiefs 165
Notice of the Dang Country .. .. ib.
Arrangement with the British Government, for the lease of the forests .. 166
Observations on the boundaries .. .. ib.
Rivers of the Dang .. .. ib.

PAGE
Notice of the roads 166
Hills of the Dang 167
Notice of the Gaekwar shares in certain of the Dang villages .. .. ib.
The number of the villages .. .. ib.
Police arrangements .. .. ib.
Social relations of the Dang .. .. ib.

SOORGANA.

The Petty State of Soorgana 168
Its situation .. .. ib.
General features .. .. ib.
The forests and soil .. .. ib.
The revenue .. .. ib.
The family of the Deshmooks .. .. ib.
The fort of Hutgur 169
Ancestors of the present Deshmooks.. .. .. ib.
Number of the Soorgana villages .. .. ib.
British political relations 170
Genealogical tree 171
Climate of Soorgana 173
Police arrangements .. .. ib.

MEHWASEE CHIEFS.

The Mehwasee Chiefs of the Talookas of Sooltanpoor and Nundoorbar .. 173
Chiklee, Wusawa of .. .. ib.
Boodawul, Rana of 174
Gowhalee, family of 175
Kati, Chief of 176
Singpoor, Chief of 177
Nal, Chief of .. .. ib.
Rylia Parvee, Chief 178

Brief Notes, containing Miscellaneous Information connected with the Petty Native States under the control of the Collector of Khandesh. By Mr. S. Mansfield, Collector of that Zilla 179
DANG GARVEE, miscellaneous information regarding 180
DANG WASSOORNA, ditto 181
DANG AMALLEE, ditto .. .. ib.
DANG DHERBOWTEE ditto 182
DANG PIMPREE, ditto 183
DANG OWCHAR, ditto .. .. ib.
DANG CHINCHLEE, ditto 184
GENERAL OBSERVATIONS .. .. ib.
SOORGANA, miscellaneous information connected with.. 186
WUSAWA OF CHIKLEE, ditto 188

PAGE

BOODAWUL, RANA OF, miscellaneous information connected with 189
THE GOWHALEEKUR, ditto 190
THE KATIKUR, ditto 192
THE SINGPOORKUR, ditto 193
NAL, ditto 194
RYLIA PARVEE, ditto 195
LIST of ROUTES, approaches, and means of communication by land, in the Dang Country 196
LIST of ROUTES, approaches, and means of communication by land, in Soorgana 199

BHEEL TRIBES OF KHANDESH.

Historical Sketch of the Bheel Tribes inhabiting the Province of Khandesh, &c. By Captain D. C. Graham; with Continuation by Captain J. Rose, Commanding the Bheel Corps in Khandesh 201

PART I.—

Notice of the Bheels of Khandesh, until the commencement of the amelioration system in 1825 202

PART II.—

The conciliatory policy, with its result 213

Continuation by Captain Rose 224

APPENDIX A—

Synopsis of the Bheel settlement in Khandesh, and of the principal events connected with the Bheel population of that province, from the year 1818 to the close of the year 1855 229

Continuation of the foregoing Synopsis, by Captain J. Rose 237

APPENDIX B—

Specimen of the language used by Bheels when in secret conversation with each other, or on marauding expeditions 241

APPENDIX C—

Register of the disposal of the most formidable of the Bheel leaders .. 243

APPENDIX D—

Memorandum regarding the past and present state (1843) of the force employed for the protection of the three districts of the Southern Agency 244
Statement of advances to, and balances due by, the Bheel colonies in the Chaleesgaum, Burgaum, and Jamnair Talookas, under the Kunhur Agency 245

PAGE

Strength of the Khandesh Bheel Corps in September 1843 246

APPENDIX E—

Strength of Detachments of the Bheel Corps in September 1843 247

APPENDIX F—

Monthly return, showing the actual strength and stations of the Bheel Corps on the 1st February 1856 248

APPENDIX G—

Statement of advances made to, recovered, and irrecoverable from, and balances still due by, the Bheel, Pardhee, and Ryut colonists in the Bauglan, Nundoorbar, Sooltanpoor, and Thalnair Talookas, under the Western Bheel Agency, from its re-establishment up to the 31st July 1855 252

APPENDIX H—

Statement of advances made to, recovered, and irrecoverable from, and balances still due by, the Bheel colonists in the Chaleesgaum, Burgaum, and Jamnair Talookas, under the Kunhur Agency, from its establishment up to the 31st July 1855.. .. .. ib.

ALPHABETICAL INDEX.

A

PAGE

Aga Rashid Beg 76
Ahmedabad 73
Appendices, Bheel Tribes .. 229, 237, 241, 243, 244, 247, 248, 252
Appendices, Penth.. 138, 140, 143, 149, 151

B

Bansda 38, 40
Bheel Corps 246
Bheel Tribes .. 201, 202, 213, 224
Bheel Tribes, appendices. 229, 237, 241, 243, 244, 247, 248, 252
Bhugwunt Rao 69
Boodawul 174
Boodawul, Rana of 189
Bore of Cambay .. 85, 87, 89, 90

C

Cambay 44, 51
Cambay, Bore of .. 85, 87, 89, 90
Cambay, Gulf of 86
Chiklee 173, 188
Chowrasee Purguna 54
Chowth of Cambay 79

D

Damajee Rao Gaekwar .. 65, 75, 77
Dang Amallee 181
Dang Chinchlee 184
Dang Country 164, 165
Dang Dherbowtee.. 182
Dang Forests 166
Dang Garvee 180

PAGE

Dang Owchar 183
Dang Pimpree 183
Dang Rajas 164
Dang, Routes in the 196
Dang Wassoorna 181
Dhurumpoor 34, 35

F

Futteh Ali.. 81

G

Goddard, General.. 79
Goldsmid, Mr. H. E. 108
Govind Rao 75
Gowhalee 175
Gowhalee, Chief of 190
Gunesh Appajee 74
Guzerat 52
Guzerat, Kings of.. 54

H

Harrison, Mr. W. H. .. 25, 34, 38
Hyder Kulee Khan 57

J

Jowar 13, 22
Junjeera 3, 7
Junjeera, British relations with .. 5
Junjeera, Khan of.. 3
Junjeera, Treaties with 11
Juwan Murd Khan 66

K

Karr, Mr. G. B. Seton 3
Kati 176

PAGE

Kati, Chief of 192
Khandesh, Petty States of.. 163, 179
Kootbee Khanum 80
Kullian Rae 53
Kunthajee.. 58

L

Luxdeer I., of Penth 122

M

Mahomed Kulee 80, 81
Malet, Sir C. W. 78
Marriott, Mr. S. 13
Meerza Jaffer Nizam-i-Sanee 56, 62
Mehwasee Chiefs 173
Momin Khan 63
Moobaruz-ool-Moolk .. 57, 58
Muftukhur Khan 65
Murathas, the 55

N

Nal 177
Nizam Khan 64
Noor-ood-deen .. 69, 73, 74, 76, 80
Nusrut Khan 54
Nuzurana 133

O

Oliphant, Mr. J. E. 44
Omanbaee.. 59

P

Parsees 52
Penth, appendices 138, 140, 143, 149, 151
Penth, Begum of 128
Penth Estate 93
Penth, Succession to the Estate of.. 107
Pillajee 58, 59
Portuguese.. 55

R

PAGE

Robertson, Lieutenant H. D. .. 51
Rose, Captain J. .. 201, 224, 237
Routes in Soorgana 199
Routes in the Dang 196
Rugoonath Rao 55, 67
Runkoojee.. 60
Ruttun Sing 60
Rylia, Chief of 195
Rylia Parvee 178

S

Showell, Mr. R. H. .. 7, 13, 22
Singpoor 177
Singpoor, Chief of.. 194
Sooja-ood-Dowla 75
Soorgana 168, 186
Soorgana, Routes in 199
Stewart, General 78
Sucheen 25, 28
Sucheen, Treaties with .. 29, 31
Sultan Bahadoor 55
Summers, Mr. A. 49
Sunuds of the Penth Estate .. 117

T

Turquand, Mr. J. W. 93

U

Ubhi Sing.. 58
Ulug Khan 54

V

Vella-ood-deen Khcljee 54

Y

Yezdijerd 52

LIST OF MAPS, &c.

PAGE

I.—Map showing the Territory of the Chief of Junjeera, situated in the Tanna Collectorate; on the scale of four miles to the inch 1

II.—Map exhibiting the Territory of the Chief of Jowar, situated in the Tanna Collectorate; on the scale of four miles to the inch 13

III.—Map of the Territory belonging to the Nuwab of Sucheen, situated in the Surat Collectorate; on the scale of four miles to the inch.. .. 25

IV.—Map showing the Territory of the Dhurumpoor and Bansda Estates, situated in the Surat Collectorate; on the scale of four miles to the inch 33

V.—Map of the Territory belonging to the Nuwab of Cambay, situated in the Kaira Collectorate 43

VI.—Chart illustrating the run of the "Bore," in the Gulf of Cambay .. 85

VII.—Map of the Territory forming the Penth Estate, situated in the Sub-Collectorate of Nasik; on the scale of four miles to the inch 93

VIII.—Genealogical Sketch of the Lineage of Kookajee Powar, framed from particulars furnished by the Musulman claimants to the Penth Gadee. 114

IX.—Genealogical Sketch of the Penth Family, as given by the Hindoo claimant to the Gadee of that Estate 116

X.—Plan and Elevation of the Tomb at Moujé Meloosker, in the Dindoree Purguna 122

XI.—Map of the Khandesh Collectorate; on the scale of twelve miles to an inch 201

MAP
Shewing the Territory of the,
CHIEF OF JINJEERA,
in the
TANNA COLLECTORATE.
Scale of 4 Miles to an inch.
REFERENCE
Red —— British Territory
Yellow —— The Chief of Jinjeera's Territory
(Signed) Nill Campbell, Colonel
Acting Qr Master General.
Qr Mr Genl's Office,
Bombay 8th Feby 1850.
PANWELL
KANARA
Tannah
Kalyan
Bhiwndy
Panwell
Nagotna
Rajpooree
Jinjeera
Severndroog
Bankote
Dabhol
Chiplun
Ratnagiri
Malwan
Vingorla
Goa
Karwar
Honawar
Mangalore

ROUGH NOTES

CONNECTED WITH

THE PETTY PRINCIPALITY OF JUNJEERA.

BY

MR. G. B. SETON KARR,

COLLECTOR AND MAGISTRATE OF TANNA;

AND BY

MR. R. H. SHOWELL,

DEPUTY COLLECTOR AND MAGISTRATE OF THAT ZILLA.

Submitted to Government in June 1854 *and January* 1855.

JUNJEERA ESTATE.

ROUGH NOTES BY MR. G. B. SETON KARR.

SEEDEE IBRAHIM KHAN YAKOOT KHAN, the reigning Nuwab of Junjeera,* is the son of the late Nuwab Seedee Mahomed. He is generally called the Nuwab or the Khan Saheb. Government are aware that he was not born in wedlock; his mother, who died shortly after his birth, was of the Gowlee caste. Seedee Mahomed, on the 31st August 1848, abdicated in his son the present Khan's favour, and placed him on the Gadee. Seedee Mahomed died on the 22nd November following, and the Government of India, in their letter to the Government of Bombay No. 501 of 1849, directed that the present Khan's right to the chiefship should be recognised. The title of Nuwab was conferred by Shah Alumgeer, but the Jageer (which Grant Duff, page 139, states was not considered hereditary) was held by Seedees under the Sultans of the Ahmednuggur Nizam Shahee Dynasty, upwards of three hundred years ago.

The present Khan is about thirty years of age*: he has no issue as yet by his wife, Sherfoo Beebee, who is about twenty years of age; but by his concubine Saeeda Baee he has had two sons, the eldest of whom is dead; the second, by name Seedee Mahomed, is about two and a half years of age. It is said that the Khan contracted Nika with Saeeda Baee before the birth of these children, but it is certain that no public ceremony was performed. It is a question which may have to be disposed of at some future time, whether this boy, Seedee Mahomed, shall be recognised as heir to the Gadee on the present Khan's death.

The Khan has a daughter by another woman, said also to be a Nika wife, named Narungee Baee; and he has two other women, said to be Nika wives too, from Hubshan. His own mother is dead; his step-mother, Banoo Beebee, who was Seedee Mahomed's (the present Khan's father) second wife, is alive, but she has no voice in the management of affairs. A Somalee named Seedee Hoosain Subedar, in concert with some Konkunee Musulmans and Purvoes, and a Seedee or two, manage everything. A recollection of what was a very common way in Mahomedan Courts of silencing troublesome opponents (and it is commonly said occasional recurrence to it), and the hold over the Khan which is given by the invalidity of his title to the Gadee, contribute,

together with his incapacity, to maintain these persons in power. A connection of the present Khan's, between whom and myself an acquaintance has arisen out of the matters lately at issue, asserts publicly that his father was poisoned at Junjeera, and that he himself has been obliged to leave the fort for fear of the same thing.

The present Khan has four half-brothers, viz :—

I.—Seedee Kasim, about twenty-five years of age. His mother's name is Sadarung Baee. He has a daughter, but no son.

II.—Seedee Esoof, about twenty-two years of age. His mother died young. He has no issue.

III.—Seedee Abdool Ruheem, about fifteen years of age. His mother's name is Jaferan Baee. He has no issue.

IV.—Seedee Mahomed, about five years of age ; is whole brother to No. I.

The mothers of all these were Nika (not married) wives to the late Khan.

There are said to be in the fort about one hundred Seedees, and a few hundred other soldiers ; there are no Arabs. Many of the military retainers are descendants of those who accompanied Seedee Umbur Sanuk when he established the present dynasty. The fort, which is on an island, is large, and in good repair, and has some serviceable guns.

The Hubshee's territory in the Konkun contains two hundred and seventy-five villages; of these twenty-three are Inam. Seven or eight only of the villages are of any size.

There are five and a half Mahals. Each has a Thana station, where a District Officer is placed, with a few Karkoons, and some fifteen sepoys. The gross revenue amounts to about a lakh and seventy thousand rupees : it is realized mostly from the land, and is paid in kind, and consumed by the Khan and his numerous relations, servants, and dependents, without being converted into money.

The cash required by the State is raised by a general house tax, from which the inhabitants best able to bear it (the Brahmins and Purvoes) are exempt, and by a Babtee or impost, levied on the cultivators in proportion to the amount of their assessment,—those who pay most assessment pay also most Babtee. The Ryuts also pay the Nuwab separately for the cost of collecting his revenue. For every Khundee of grain which they pay, they also pay a rupee to reimburse the Sirkar for the trouble and expense of carrying it to Junjeera.

There is also a money tax on trades and professions ; but as the principal part of the revenue is paid in kind, and not in cash, the people, although extremely poor, have not to run into debt to pay it. Vait or forced labour is exacted ; the labourers receiving two copper pice and a Nitvee of rice per diem. The successive Chiefs who have occupied the Gadee are generally reported to have been popular with the Ryuts, and to have always inclined to a mild and lenient rule ; but the factions which contend for the direct management of

affairs are said to oppress and plunder each other's adherents as opportunity of doing so occurs.

The British political relations with the Junjeera Estate are comprised in the Treaty of Alliance, concluded on the 6th December 1733, by Messrs. Lowther and Dickinson on the part of the Honorable East India Company, with the Seedees of Junjeera of Rajapooree; confirmed on the 11th December 1733 by the Honorable Robert Cowan, President and Governor in Council.*

The Chief of Junjeera pays no tribute, and is regarded as independent of the British Government; and, as far as lies in his power, he seems determined to remain so. No British Agent of any description resides at Junjeera. The Chief exhibits much disinclination to correspond on any subject with the British authorities, and he views with suspicion and dislike the visits into his territory of any officer, either Native or European, belonging to the Honorable Company's Service.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION REGARDING JUNJEERA.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

I.—Seedee Ibrahim Khan Yakoot Khan, Nuwab of Junjeera, is about thirty years of age.

Usual Place of Residence.

II.—Fort of Junjeera.

III.—The Chief has no family by his wife.

Names and Ages of Legitimate Male Issue, and of the Principal Persons of the Court.

The principal persons of the little Court, if such a title can be applied to it, are Seedee Hoosain Subedar, and Shaikanee Subedar. They are descendants of officers who accompanied the first Seedee when the Jageer was established here, about three hundred years ago. There are two other families of distinction, one called Subnees, and the other Dewan, who formerly had general control over the affairs of the State. At present affairs are managed, or I should rather say mismanaged, by any person who can get the upper hand.

Whether Tributary or not; if so, to whom, and Annual Amount of Tribute.

IV.—Pays no tribute to any one.

Estimated-Gross Annual Revenue.

V.—The total amount of revenue is said to be about Rs. 1,70,000.

VI.—Is bounded on the north by the Rewdunda Creek, on the south by the Bankote Creek, on the east by the Talookas of Rajpooree and Ryghur, of the Tanna Zilla, and on the west by the ocean. The area is about three hundred and twenty-four square miles.

Boundaries of Territory, and estimated Area in Square Miles.

* This Treaty will be found at page 8 of this Selection.

VII.—Towards the sea, the soil is sandy. In the other parts of the Principality the usual red stony soil of the Konkun prevails; strong evidence of volcanic formation is apparent everywhere. The means of irrigation are wells, which are worked by the common Persian wheel. Garden crops are also raised by means of the Ooktee, which is a bucket at the end of a pole, balanced by a weight, and worked by manual labour. Water is drawn up from the nullas and rivulets by means of this apparatus. The general appearance of the country is extremely hilly; the hills average about one thousand feet in height, and are covered with dense jungle. Their sides produce good crops of hemp, Nachnee, and Naglee (*Cynosurus corocanus*). Between the ranges of hills are narrow valleys, containing the villages, and where excellent crops of rice are raised in the alluvial soil.

Prevailing Nature of the Soil, usual Means of Irrigation, and general Features of the Country.

VIII.—The natural and industrial resources are almost exclusively agricultural; manufactures there are none. With the exception of the seafaring Kolees, most of whom are fishermen, the rest of the population get their living from the soil. In the light sand, bordering the sea, cocoanut trees grow in great perfection, and fresh water for their irrigation is found by digging anywhere for a few yards into the easily worked earth. Rice is largely cultivated in the valleys. Firewood and timber could be largely exported, but this is not allowed. There is not, however, much teak.

Natural and Industrial Resources.

IX.—There are no made roads; the creeks and the ocean to some extent supply the want.

Routes, Approaches, and Means of Communication by Land and Water.

X.—The climate is the same as that of most other parts of the Konkun—hot, relaxing, and moist, but not unhealthy. The average range of the thermometer in the latter part of the rainy and in the cold weather may be taken as about 76°, and in the hot weather and beginning of the rains as about 90°.

Climate, and Average Range of Thermometer.

XI.—The average fall may probably be about one hundred inches.

Average Annual Fall of Rain.

XII.—The population is estimated at about seventy-one thousand.

Estimated Population.

XIII.—The religion is Mahomedan and Hindoo; the language is Hindoostanee and Murathee. The predominant castes are Mahomedan, Bundaree, Kolee, and Agree; there are few Brahmins or Purvoes.

Religion, Language, Tribes, and Castes.

XIV.—It cannot be said that much justice is administered, either civil or criminal. A good deal is left to the caprice and interest of the subordinate officers for the time being, and their appointments depending on their payment of Nuzurana, changes therefore frequently occur. Civil and criminal functions are performed indiscriminately

Brief notice of the Mode in which Civil and Criminal Justice are Administered.

by the same officers. The proceedings are generally oral, and there is no definition or fixed limit of jurisdiction. The public, however, have apparently been taught a lesson which might be learned with great advantage in the Honorable Company's possessions, for there is little or no litigation. As the revenue is paid in kind, the people, though extremely poor, are not generally in debt.

Nature of Punishments awarded for Criminal Offences.

XV.—Fine is the punishment generally awarded, and as the officer by whom it is imposed has a portion of it for himself, it may safely be assumed that guilt is generally punished; whether innocence is always safe is a different matter. If the fines imposed are not paid, the convicts in small cases are made to labour as menial servants; in serious offences confinement is resorted to.

Educational Measures.

XVI.—No assistance whatever is given by the State. In the very large villages there is generally a Murathee school, where boys learn reading, writing, and arithmetic. The Pundit receives from two to four annas a month for each boy.

Progress of Vaccination.

XVII.—The Hubshee has hitherto resisted its introduction.

Prevalent Diseases.

XVIII.—Intermittent and remittent fever, and guinea-worm.

ROUGH NOTES BY MR. R. H. SHOWELL.

The following extract from Clune's Appendix to his "Itinerary," published in 1828, contains an account of the origin and history of the Junjeera Estate:—

"Seedee or Hubshee Mahomed Khan, the present Chief of Junjeera, is the eldest son of the late Ibrahim Khan, who, after a reign of about twenty-four years, died towards the end of 1826. The country over which his authority extends is along the sea coast, between the Rewdunda and Bankoot rivers, and produces a revenue of about Rs. 1,75,000 annually. The legend sets forth, that about the year 1489 a party of Abyssinians, in the service of one of the Nizam Shahee Kings of Ahmednuggur, disguised as merchants, obtained permission from the chiefs of the island to land three hundred boxes, each of which contained a soldier, by which means they possessed themselves of Dunda Rajapoor. It afterwards formed part of the dominions of the King of Rajapoor, under whom, in the time of Sivajee, the Government of the Southern Konkun was held by the admiral of the Beejapoor fleet, who was an Abyssinian, and whose officers and crews were his own countrymen. Being hard pressed by the Murathas, the captains of the fleet appear to have formed themselves into a republic, and to have offered their services

to Aurungzeeb, then at war equally with Beejapoor and the Murathas. Since that time, till within fifteen or twenty years ago, they have been engaged in constant wars, by sea and land; but the Principality, though circumscribed in its limits, maintains its independence to this day. The Seedees were terrible as pirates, and more dreaded than all others on the Pirate Coast."

The Chief of Junjeera is still independent in his own State. In matters calling for the interference of the British Government, he is subject only to the orders of Government in the Political Department.

The revenues of the State are at present considered not to exceed a lakh of rupees per annum.

The intercourse between the British authorities and the Hubshee consists in rendering mutual assistance in apprehending and delivering up persons accused of criminal offences, and on miscellaneous matters arising out of proximity of position.

Communications from the Government to the Chief are usually made through the medium of the Collector, but on extraordinary occasions of compliment, or of censure for inattention to the wishes of Government (which has occasionally been called for by the conduct of the Chief), letters are addressed to him direct by the Governor in Council.

The only Treaty which has ever been made with the Chief of this State was one of alliance for purposes offensive and defensive, on the 6th December 1733.

JUNJEERA.

Treaty of Alliance, concluded on the 6th December 1733 *by Messrs.* LOWTHER *and* DICKINSON, *on the part of the Honorable* EAST INDIA COMPANY, *with the* SEEDEES OF JUNJEERA OF RAJAPOOREE; *confirmed on the* 11*th December* 1733, *by the Honorable* ROBERT COWAN, *President and Governor in Council.*

Articles by which the English Nation and the Seedees of Junjeera have adjusted an Alliance, defensive and offensive, on the Coast of India.

For to establish upon a firm and lasting foundation a perpetual alliance and sincere friendship betwixt the Governments of Junjeera and Bombay, Seedee Saad, Seedee Oomur Affajee, Seedee Musood, and the other principal Seedees residing in the said Junjeera, have agreed and settled with the Honorable Robert Cowan, Esq., President and Governor for the Honorable English Company and Council,—

ARTICLE I.

That they shall make a league against all the enemies of both Governments in India (Europeans, subjects of the Kings of Hindoostan, Persia, Arabia, and China excepted), and particularly against Angria, both Governments making a vigorous war by sea and land, not regarding any offers of peace from that enemy; and neither of the two allies shall hear alone nor particularly anything relating to peace, unless both are present at the same time anything is proposed, and are to resolve on nothing without the consent of both Governments.

ARTICLE II.

That in case one of the two Governments may have an enemy that is in amity with the other, in such case the league is only to be defensive, and must not fail on any pretence to assist them that are invaded; and in case of any invasion, the Government that is in amity with the aggressor shall interfere their good offices as mediators, to accommodate the differences that have happened.

ARTICLE III.

As to the union of the forces of Bombay and Junjeera in their actions against Angria, as well by sea as by land, all the marine forces of Bombay are to be in conjunction with those of Junjeera, who are to be commanded by their own proper officer, yet he is to act as subordinate to the chief commander of the English forces, as being more experienced in sea fighting, and the fleet of Bombay of greater force; and as in Bombay there is no more infantry than is sufficient for their garrisons, the necessary land forces are to be provided by the Seedees of Junjeera.

ARTICLE IV.

And likewise, in case the territories of the Seedee should be invaded by any power that is an enemy to both Governments, they are to be assisted with all the marine force of Bombay; and in case that the Government of Bombay should be invaded by any power that is an enemy to both Governments, they shall be assisted from Junjeera with thirty fighting gallivats, and two thousand sepoys.

ARTICLE V.

That all that is taken in this war by sea by the united forces of both Governments shall be given to the English, and what shall be taken by land shall be given to the Seedees, according as is expressed in Articles VI. and VII.

ARTICLE VI.

And if God shall be pleased to give this alliance the desired success, and that Angria shall be expelled the Fort of Khandéry by the united forces of both Governments, that place shall be given to the English, with all the ammunition and artillery that shall be found therein; and all the other forts

that shall be taken from the said enemy shall be given to the Seedee, with all the ammunition and artillery found in them, except Colaba, which shall be entirely demolished, with all its bulwarks and batteries, so as one stone shall not be left above another, and shall never be rebuilt without the consent and pleasure of both Governments; and the revenues and produce of the lands annexed to that fort, and whatever tribute belongs to it (except royal grants and possessions in the hands of the ancient proprietors) shall be annually and equally divided, half to the English, and the other half to the Seedees of Junjeera, and the care and security of these lands is to be provided for by both.

ARTICLE VII.

In the place called Mhopat, betwixt the rivers of Nagotna and Penn, in the district of Colaba, the English may build, if they think proper, a warehouse and small fort, with artillery sufficient for the better security of those lands and their roads, and the conveniency of merchants trading, putting a garrison therein; and the customs and other rents that shall be recovered shall be annually and equally divided, half to the English and half to the Seedees of Junjeera, and likewise they shall pay equally the charges of building the fort and its garrison, and both Governments shall take care to encourage trade and preserve the subjects.

ARTICLE VIII.

That all the ammunition that shall be expended in this war, as well by sea as by land, by either of the Governments, shall be on their respective accounts, and in case one should be necessitated to take of the other, if they can spare it, they are to give it for its just price.

ARTICLE IX.

If any robberies are committed on either side, restitution is immediately to be made to the persons wronged.

ARTICLE X.

That deserters who put themselves under the protection of either Government shall not be delivered up if they have committed a crime worthy of death.

ARTICLE XI.

That the Seedees of Junjeera shall, on no pretence, hereafter issue out their passes to the shipping and people of Angria.

ARTICLE XII.

That after Colaba is taken, with its dependencies, if it should be attacked by the enemy, the charges of the forces that shall be left for its defence shall be equally defrayed by both Governments.

ARTICLE XIII.

That after the ratification of these Articles, by which the league is adjusted, we are immediately to put them in execution.

This 10*th day of the month of Rujub, and the* 16*th year of His Majesty's reign, and* 1146 *of the Law (or* A. D. *the* 6*th December* 1733*).*

Hon'ble East India Company's Seal.

(Signed) ROBERT COWAN.

Khyrit Khan's Seal.

Seedee Abdool Rahman's Seal.

Seedee Yakoot Khan's Seal.

Seedee Saad's Seal.

Seedee Musood's Seal.

Seedee Sambolt's Seal.

Seedee Oomur's Seal.

MEMORANDUM.—The above Treaty was ratified by the Governor in Council of Bombay on the 11th December 1733.

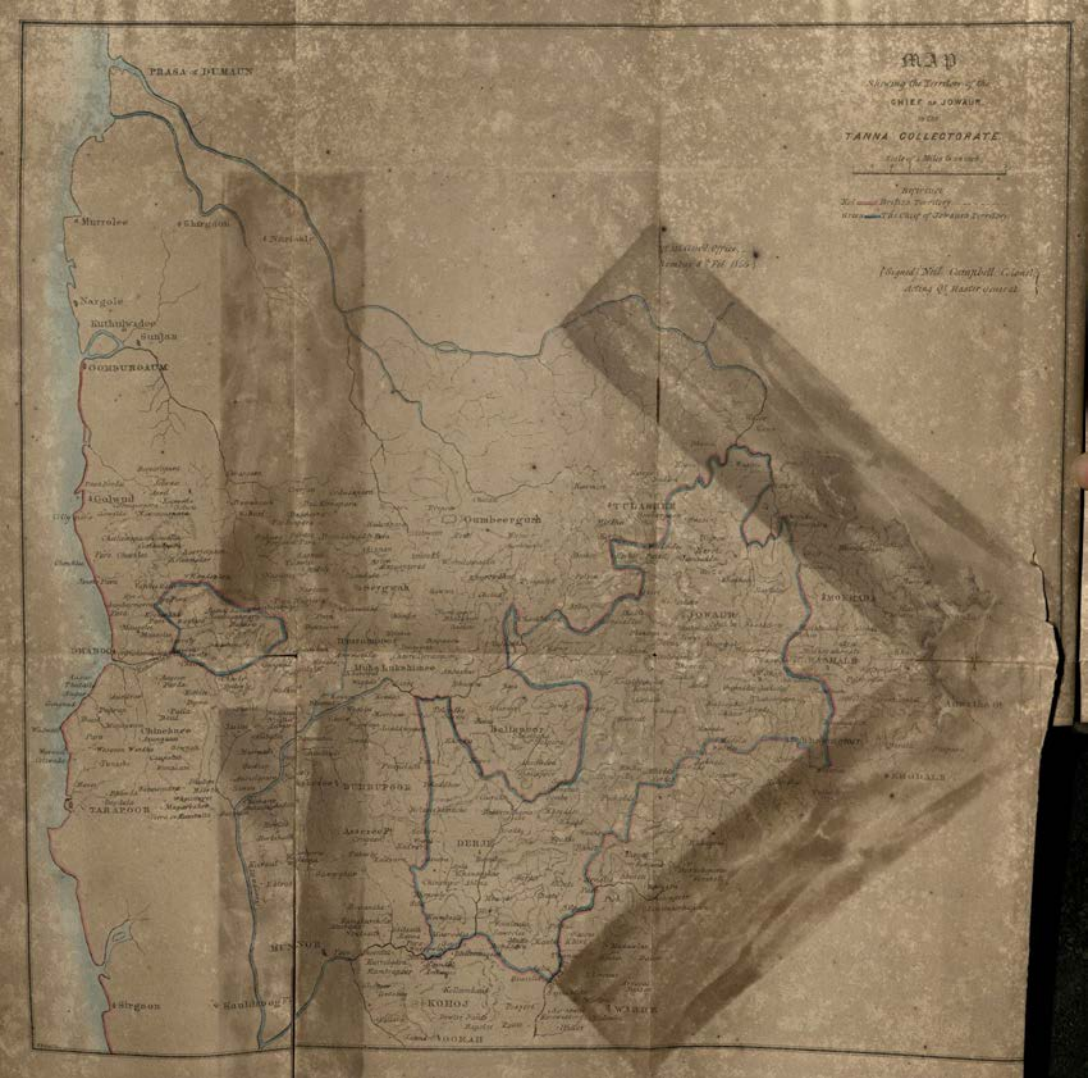
The following separate Engagement between the Governments of Bombay and Junjeera of Rajapooree was agreed to and signed at the same time as the foregoing General Treaty of Alliance :—

In equipping a fleet to chastise and destroy the enemy Angria, the Government of Bombay have expended two lakhs of rupees; that the same be effectually represented to Court, and the King's order obtained upon the Governor of Surat, for the payment of three lakhs of rupees on account of the Tunkha of the fleet and forts, which order we oblige ourselves to deliver to the Government of Bombay. In which order it shall be expressed that the said

money shall be paid out of the Treasury of Surat to the Government of Bombay, and after the said three lakhs of rupees are received from the Surat Government, they shall take to themselves two lakhs of rupees, and one shall be given to the Seedee of Junjeera.

This 11*th of the month Rujub, in the* 16*th year of His Majesty's reign, or* A. D. *the* 7*th of December* 1733.

(Signed) ROBERT COWAN.


MAP
Shewing the Territory of the
CHIEF OF JOWAUR
in the
TANNA COLLECTORATE
Scale of 4 Miles to an Inch
Reference
Boundary of British Territory
Boundary of the Chief of Jowaur's Territory
Military Office
Bombay 4th Feb 1825
Signed Neil Campbell Colonel
Acting Qr Master General
PRASA or DUMAUN
Murroloe
Shirgaon
Nargole
Ruthulwadee
Sunjaa
BOMBURGAUM
Golwul
Oumbeergaon
CHARNE
JOWAUR
DHANOO
Muhalukshmee
Ballapore
Chinchnee
TARAPOOR
BERIE
MUNSOR
Sirgaon
Saulsbeg
KOHOJ
WARRE
GOOMAH
MOHOLA
ALIBAGH

ROUGH NOTES

CONNECTED WITH

THE PETTY ESTATE OF JOWAR,

IN THE TANNA COLLECTORATE.

BY

MR. SAVILLE MARRIOTT,

COLLECTOR IN THE NORTHERN KONKUN.

AND BY

MR. R. H. SHOWELL,

DEPUTY COLLECTOR AND MAGISTRATE OF TANNA.

Submitted to Government in January 1823 *and June* 1854.

JOWAR ESTATE.

From S. MARRIOTT, Esq., Collector of the Northern Konkun,

To the Honorable MOUNTSTUART ELPHINSTONE, Governor of Bombay.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT. *Dated the 2nd January* 1823.

HONORABLE SIR,—I have the honour to submit an account of my proceedings since the receipt of the instructions from Government to ascertain the natural guardian of the infant Raja of Jowar, and to put that guardian in possession of the Government and his Petty State, with such arrangements as might be necessary to secure efficiency; as also to take proper measures to repress any disorders that might exist, and to call on the troops at Bhewndy if required. Before, however, commencing upon the detail of my proceedings, it may perhaps be desirable that I should, in elucidation of the subject under consideration, offer a few summary observations on the state of Jowar, particularly as they may possibly be useful as a record on some future occasion.

The establishment of this Petty State appears to have been effected in much the same manner as that in which the Muratha Empire itself was founded, namely by means, in the first instance, of successful predatory acts. Jayab Mookney, of the Kolee caste, commenced his career by gradually collecting a band of armed followers in the strong country about Jowar, who, with himself, were subsisted by the contributions which they levied on the villages, and from travellers, and by occasional open freebooting. His success increasing, his son, Nem Shah, upon his father's death, found himself in possession of several districts, and it would appear that the advantages which Jayab had gained were so great, and his son so well established in them, that the Court of Delhi deemed it expedient by a Firman to recognise the title of Raja in the person of Nem Shah, over that part of the country in which his father, or himself, had established their authority. This event took place four hundred and eighty-one years ago,* and forms the era on which the public transactions are dated.

The present Jowar family are descendants, either by lineage or adoption, of the original founder of the State.

From the above date until about A. D. 1758 the Raja possessed, with the

* About A. D. 1341.

exception of that part which was immediately on the coast, almost the whole of the country which lies between the Sahyadree Ghats and the sea, from the latitude of the northern boundary of the island of Bassein to the river of Damaun. He also held some districts as far south as Bhewndy, though further inland than that place. He had ten forts in his possession, and held the Foujdaree of Bhewndy. His annual established revenue was Rs. 1,00,000; but besides this, it is stated that the contributions which he levied on the villages not immediately within his own districts, from travellers, and merchants, amounted to Rs. 2,50,000 more, so that altogether the Raja possessed an annual revenue of about Rs. 3,50,000.

Previous to A. D. 1760, quarrels had arisen between the Murathas and the Jowar Raja, and were continued until the latter was gradually deprived by the former of far the greater part of his territory, when, about the year 1782, Mahadoo Narayen Peshwa imposed an arrangement upon the Raja by which he was allowed to retain territory to the annual value of from Rs. 15,000 to Rs. 20,000 only.

From this time the province fell into almost entire insignificance, though the inhabitants of the neighbouring districts, and especially of those which were taken possession of by the Murathas, still retained a dread of the predatory disposition of the Kolees, who, until the establishment of the British Government by the Treaty of Poona,* still continued occasionally to commit partial depredations on the villages, and on travellers. These circumstances will account for the comparatively low state of cultivation in the whole of the above districts, both British and those belonging to the Raja, as also for the comparatively light assessment of public revenue which it was found necessary to impose, to ensure any cultivation at all. Great part of the country in Jowar is, however, capable of a very high degree of cultivation, having a fine, deep, and rich soil, though but little of it is now made use of except for pasture, or jungle lands. The cattle, however, are remarkably fine. By far the majority of the population is composed of Kolees, and other jungle tribes, and most of them are armed with bows and arrows, spears, or matchlocks. The only approach to anything bearing the name of a fortified place which the Raja now possesses is a wretched sort of a Ghuree at Jowar.

Puttung Shah, the paternal grandfather of the present Raja, who also bears his name, died about the year 1792, leaving three sons, Vikram Shah, Eswunt Rao, and Mahadoo Rao. A posthumous son was born to Vikram Shah, who left also a daughter, the mother's name being Sugoonabaee. Eswunt Rao died in 1817, leaving a young son, named Tookaram, whose mother's name is Rumabaee *alias* Saveetree, whose alliance with Eswunt Rao was not celebrated, it is stated, with that degree of prescribed form which would, according to the custom of the country, amount to marriage, or render the offspring eligible to succeed his father in any part of the Government. This I mention because

* Dated the 14th May 1804.

his father, Eswunt Rao, having for some time had the management of the Purguna Gunjar, the mother, Saveetree, on the part of her son, put in her claim during the confusion which was produced by the death of Vikram Shah and his two brothers, to the management of that Purguna.

Mahadoo Rao died in 1819, leaving a young son and daughter, the former named Purtap Rao, whose mother's name is Luximee. She likewise made a demand on the part of her son to the management of the Gunjar Purguna,—on the ground, first, of her husband, Mahadoo Rao, having for some time had it under his charge; and secondly, that the illegitimacy of Tookaram, if admitted, would occasion the transfer of the management of Gunjar Purguna to Purtap Rao, the son of Mahadoo Rao.

Dewba Rao Mookney was a notorious freebooting Sirdar whilst the Muratha Government existed, and since that period he appears to have been urging the several disputants in Jowar to intrigue and disturbance, with the object of establishing his own authority during the feuds; but I could not find in any way, or even by his own admission, that he has any pretension whatever to any provision from the Jowar State, although a pension has been settled upon him, as will hereafter be noticed.

Dhondee, a purchased concubine of Eswunt Rao, is the last claimant; her just right being to nothing more than a suitable provision from the Raja's revenue.

Having now sketched the claims of the different parties in the late dissensions, I shall proceed to inform your excellency with the manner in which I have put a stop to them, and adopted such an arrangement as will, I hope, prevent future disturbance.

The right of the British Government to exercise its undoubted legal authority in not only suppressing any violent disorders in the Petty State of Jowar, but also in interfering to impose such arrangements as have for their object the prevention of feuds likely to lead to disturbance in the British districts, is not more clear than is the necessity for doing so when such occasions occur; and that necessity seems particularly apparent in the present day, when there are so many idlers about the country, ready to join any band that has a prospect of gaining by plunder.

To carry these sentiments into practice, I thought it right to proceed myself to Jowar, and, as it seemed to be an object of great consideration to impress the people in the strongest manner with the conviction that any attempt at disturbance would immediately be resisted and effectually put down by the British Government, I requested Major Morse, commanding in the Northern Konkun, to furnish a detachment of troops to accompany me, consisting of one hundred men.

I purposed to proceed direct to the village of Jowar, where the Raja resides, and intimated my intention to the Ranee, his mother; who in reply wished me to postpone my visit for one month, to enable her to make suitable preparations, particularly in consequence of the greater part of the place having a few

months ago been destroyed by fire. Wishing, however, to come to the earliest possible settlement of the subject, I waived her objection, and proposed meeting herself, her son, and all the disputants at Koorun, a village in her own district, about eighteen miles from Jowar. To this she assented, and she arrived there on the 12th ultimo. On the following day, with all the ceremony of which circumstances would admit, I presented the Khilut, in the name of the Honorable Company, to the young Raja, and immediately after had a proclamation read, stating that the Honorable Company had confirmed Puttung Shah on the Gadee of his ancestors, and that all persons were to obey Sugoonabaee Ranee, his mother, in his behalf, until Puttung Shah should become personally qualified to undertake the management of the Petty State of Jowar. After the customary presents had been distributed, the several persons were informed by me that I would receive in writing, on the following day, a statement of their claims respectively.

Savitreebaee, for herself and son Tookaram, stated that she wished to abide entirely by any decision which the Ranee should determine upon, and did not present any claim to the Gunjar Purguna. This circumstance seemed to countenance the prevalent opinion that her offspring was not entitled to that Purguna as an alienation from the Government of Jowar, for had she possessed any good right thereto, it is not to be supposed that she would so readily have given it up.

Luximeebaee, for her son Purtap Rao, put in a claim to the Gunjar Purguna, in consequence of the alleged illegitimacy of Tookaram. But admitting that if the latter had been proved to be a legitimate child, and that Gunjar would in that case have been his right, still his claim being set aside, the Purguna, according to the custom of the country, would revert to the elder branch of the family, namely the son of the eldest brother, that is Puttung Shah, the son of the late Raja. But I could not find that Gunjar was ever permanently alienated from the Government,—it seems to have been transferred to the management of a branch of the family merely as a temporary provision; and it appeared to me to be objectionable that such alienations should be countenanced, they being greatly calculated to give birth to many disputes. Luximeebaee was by no means urgent in her claim, and very soon stated that she was, for herself and son, perfectly satisfied to accept of any settlement which I considered to be just.

Dewba Rao Mookney, the principal actor in the late disturbances, stated that he had no claim to prefer,—indeed he seemed to think himself fortunate in not having been brought to punishment for his violent proceedings; but, with the full consent of the Ranee, I thought it advisable that he should have a pension sufficient to maintain him, as will be seen in the accompanying memorandum. A provision has been made for Dhondee.

In requesting your excellency's attention to Article IV. of the annexed memorandum, I beg leave to recommend a compliance therewith to your favourable consideration, on the ground of the poverty of the Raja, which can

but ill afford to pay the Nuzur,* though I understand it is Rs. 1,000 only, to which the Honorable Company have an undoubted right in their capacity of sovereign, on the occasion of the investiture. The relinquishment of this tribute in the present instance being fully understood to be purely an act of grace only, I apprehend that the circumstance cannot by the most distorted construction affect the right on any future occasion; whilst giving it up at the present moment will probably tend to do away the idea, though it is now a faint one only, which went abroad, that it was the intention of the British Government to take possession of the Jowar territory, and to pension the family of the Raja. If, however, it should be thought necessary that the Nuzur should be paid, the receiving of it might perhaps be postponed, with advantage, until the young Raja himself becomes capable of assuming the management of his affairs.

It is necessary that I should state the reasons by which I was actuated in leaving the military party at Jowar, as noticed in Article VIII. of the accompanying paper. These were to obviate the necessity of the Raja increasing the burdens already on his limited revenue, by augmenting his Sebundee establishment, which would merely be collecting a rabble, who in the end would most probably be compelled to plunder for their livelihood. Another motive was, that the disaffected should be kept in awe by this indication of the intention of Government to preserve the peace of the districts, and to support the authority of the Raja in the person of his natural guardian, his mother.

I am not aware that it is necessary for me to trouble you further than to request your perusal of the accompanying translation of a memorandum of the settlement which I have made, in virtue of the authority which you were pleased to entrust to me, and which I hope has been used in such a manner as will prevent further disturbances, and meet with your excellency's approbation. I cannot, however, conclude this letter without expressing the sense which I entertain of the kindness of Captain Wood, and the detachment under his command, in meeting my utmost wishes in every respect upon the occasion of our visit to Jowar.

* * * * * * * * *

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) SAVILLE MARRIOTT.

Tanna, 2nd January 1823.

* Mr. Marriott's arrangements were entirely approved by Government, on the 22nd February 1823.

MEMORANDUM REFERRED TO IN THE PRECEDING LETTER,

DATED THE 16TH DECEMBER 1822.

I.—Being in camp at Moujé Koorun, on the 13th December 1822, a proclamation was issued to the inhabitants, stating that the Honorable Company has confirmed Puttung Shah, Raja of Jowar, on the throne of his ancestors; and that Puttung Shah Raja's mother, Sugoonabaee Ranee, is charged with the due administration of the Suwusthan until the said Puttung Shah shall be personally qualified to undertake it; and that all the inhabitants are enjoined to obey the orders of Sugoonabaee Ranee. This proclamation being publicly notified at the Durbar Kucheree at my head quarters, the investiture was duly conferred.

II.—Sugoonabaee Ranee will conduct the affairs of the Jowar Government in behalf of the Raja; but should any violent proceedings be resorted to by any person in the Suwusthan Jowar, including the Purguna Gunjar, assistance will, if necessary, be rendered by the British Government to quell such acts.

III.—The claims of the different branches of the Jowar family, and their connections with that State, having had mature consideration, as well as the revenues derivable from the Suwusthan Jowar, including Gunjar, it has been determined to allot specific payments from the joint revenue of these districts to the members of that family, in the order and proportions as follow :—

To Luximeebaee and her son Purtap Rao, jointly, per annum ..	Rs. 1,500
To Savitreebaee *alias* Rumabaee, and her son Tookaram, jointly, per annum	500
To Dhondee, per annum.....	200
To Dewba Rao Mookney Rajkoover, per annum.....	200
Total.....	Rs. 2,400

Making together Rs. 2,400; and Sugoonabaee should personally satisfy herself that the full amount as specified above is made to each person respectively.

IV.—The revenue of the Suwusthan of Jowar being small, and the dissensions in the family having caused the full expenditure of it in maintaining troops, having had its full weight of consideration, it will be recommended to the Honorable the Governor in Council of Bombay in this instance to waive the British Government's right of demanding and receiving a Nuzur on the present investiture of Puttung Shah Raja to the Gadee of his ancestors, but the power of remitting it rests with that authority.*

V.—Independently of the differences that existed in regard to the Purguna Gunjar, there are some petty quarrels in the family of the Suwusthan, to which

* Payment of Nuzurana was on this occasion excused by Government.

Sugoonabaee Ranee should give due attention, and settle them amicably between the several parties.. If this is not effected mutually, the character of the Suwusthan will be lowered, and my intentions go unfulfilled. The different members should always be friendly together, that no disturbance may exist.

VI.—Dewba Rao Mookney Rajkoover should avoid for the future his seditious and other illegal acts of conduct. To effect this object, Sugoonabaee Ranee should keep a watchful eye over his acts, and if he resorts to illegal measures in the Suwusthan Jowar, he is to be immediately imprisoned there, or receive such other punishment as the laws of the country direct; or should he come within my jurisdiction, the Komavisdar of the district in which he may be is to be written to, who will give every assistance to secure him. To this end separate orders will be addressed to the Komavisdars of Soobhas in my jurisdiction. Moreover, the said Dewba Rao having been, under date the 14th of the present month, allowed an annual sum of Rs. 200, payable by the Suwusthan, which is considered sufficient for his subsistence, he was verbally directed to discharge the armed men he raised, with the exception of two, whom he was allowed to retain, within five days from the above date. Whether or not this order is conformed to by the Mookney, Sugoonabaee Ranee is to make herself personally satisfied with.

VII.—Sugoonabaee Ranee will personally exert herself to the maintenance of the peace and welfare of the territory under the Suwusthan, and will look to the bringing land into cultivation, as its appearance seems to indicate great fertility.

VIII.—For the present a Subedar and a party of sepoys are sent to Jowar, with the view to preserve the Raja and the Suwusthan. This party will remain at that station two or three months, or until I am satisfied that Sugoonabaee Ranee can by her own authority and means fully execute the charge which has devolved upon her in behalf of her son, Puttung Shah Raja. The above Subedar, Luximun Manay, and his party, have been instructed by Captain Wood as to the manner of their conduct. A copy of these instructions I sent you separately; by this you will be satisfied of the desire which the British Government feels for the prosperity of the Jowar Suwusthan.

ROUGH NOTES BY MR. R. H. SHOWELL.

Clune's account of this Estate up to the year 1828, which is concise and accurate, is as follows:—

"The Raja of Jowar, Puttung Shah, is of the Kolee tribe. He was invested with the chiefship in December 1822, by the British Government; but being a minor, the conduct of affairs was entrusted to his mother, Sugoonabaee

Ranee. The territory is a mountainous tract, situated below the Sahyadree Range, north-east of Tanna, containing many fertile valleys; but cultivation is greatly neglected. The population is composed of predatory Kolee and other jungle tribes, who are mostly armed with bows and arrows, spears, or matchlocks. Joya Mookney, the founder of this petty State, established himself in the strong country about Jowar nearly five hundred years ago, and subsisted by freebooting. He was succeeded by his son, Nem Shah, on whom the Emperor of Delhi, by imperial Firman, conferred the title of Raja. In A. D. 1758 the Raja possessed the whole of the country which lies immediately below the Sahyadree Range from the latitude of Bassein to the Damun-gunga. He then had ten forts, and held also the Foujdaree of Bhewndy. His land revenue was rated at Rs. 1,00,000, but the exactions from travellers and merchants amounted to about Rs. 2,50,000 more, making his total revenue Rs. 3,50,000. Previous to 1760, quarrels had arisen with the Poona State, which subsequently to this date assumed a right of interference in the family feuds. In 1766, Puttung Shah, the grandfather of the present Raja, had been adopted by the widow of his predecessor, and established upon the Gadee by the help of the Peshwa, by whose encroachments the Estate was reduced, about this time, to its present limits, yielding a revenue of Rs. 15,000 or Rs. 20,000, but burdened with a fixed tribute of Rs. 1,000 per annum, and a Nuzur on the investiture of every new Raja. The Jowar and Gunjar districts produce a good deal of timber. The Raja is within the jurisdiction of the Collector of Tanna."

Puttung Shah is still* Chief of this State.

The revenues have within the last twenty years been still more considerably reduced, from the effects of the abolition of the transit and other duties by the British Government.

No tribute is levied from the Raja by our Government,—the Nuzur was remitted on Puttung Shah's succession: the right to it was, however, reserved.

The Chief is independent in his own State, and the interference of the British Government is exercised only when called for by disputes in the reigning family, or internal disturbance. All intercourse is conducted through the Collector and Magistrate of Tanna, and is not dissimilar in its character to that kept up with the Hubshee.*

No British Agent of any description resides at Jowar.

A. D. 1854.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION REGARDING THE JOWAR ESTATE,

BY MR. R. H. SHOWELL.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

I.—Puttung Shah Vikrum Shah Raja; aged thirty-four years.

Usual Place of Residence.

II.—Jowar, and for the last four or five years occasionally at Mulwadeh, by a river, on account of its greater salubrity.

Legitimate Male Issue.

III.—None. The heir to the Gadee is stated to be Narayen Rao, the son of Purtap Rao, the Raja's paternal uncle's son, now deceased, who is only five years old.

Principal Persons of the Court.

The only surviving Rance of three the Raja has had, named Oomaee; two Karbharees, viz. Gunputrao Treelochund Dewan, aged thirty-eight years; and Annundrao Krusht Prudhan, aged thirty-six years.

Whether Tributary or not.

IV.—Not tributary.

Estimated Gross Annual Revenue.

V.—Rs. 25,900.

Boundaries of Territory, and estimated Area in Square Miles.

VI.—The boundaries are of a very irregular and zigzag character; the territory occupies a position between 19° 43′ and 20° 5′ N. lat., and between 73° 10′ and 73° 35′ E. long., extending in its greatest length from north-east to south-west; and bounded on the north-west by the Sunjan Talooka, on the south-west by the Mahim Talooka, and on the north-east and south-east by the Kolwan Talooka. The area may be estimated at three hundred square miles.

Prevailing Nature of the Soil, and general Features of the Country.

VII.—The country is generally mountainous, and rocky, with numerous rivers, nullas, and extensive jungles. Towards the south and west the country is to a limited extent level.

Natural and Industrial Resources.

VIII.—Irrigation there is none, of any description. The agricultural resources consist of rice, naglee, wuree, ooreed, and khoorasnee; the first item to a very limited extent, and the rest in abundance. The people are mostly cultivators; some also deal largely in trade in timber of various kinds, with which the country is well supplied.

Routes, Approaches, and Means of Communication by Land and Water.

IX.—The routes from the country above the Sahyadree Range are by way of the Chinchotra and Gondia Ghats, or passes, which are passable for bullocks and horses. The coast in the direction of Mahim and Oombergaum is approachable as the nearest way through the Jowar territory, and the road is rugged and hilly. Traffic from the Chundria Ghat passes to Bassein and

Bhewndy through this territory, and is carried on by bullocks and horses. At a Naka or station at the Jowar village of Kindsay, a toll of one Dhuboo pice (in value about four or five pies) per animal is levied.

Climate.

X.—The climate is somewhat variable in character: from August and September to the middle and end of December the humidity is more or less great; a gradual change then ensues, until February and March; after which the hot season sets in with considerable intensity. The water is good, but the supply fails as the hot season advances, except in the southern Mahal of Dhesjee, where it is abundant at all times.

There is no record of the range of the thermometer.

Average Fall of Rain.

XI.—The measurement cannot be specified, but is generally ample for the purposes of the country; and a failure seldom occurs, and is then only partial.

Estimated Population.

XII.—About 8,000.

Religion.

XIII.—Hindoo generally, and to a limited extent Mahomedan.

Language.

Murathee, in a partially corrupt form.

Tribes, and Castes.

Kolees, Thakoors, Warlees, Katkurees, Koonbees, Bunias, and Musulmans; the four former being what are usually termed "Wild Tribes."

Brief notice of the Mode of Administering Civil and Criminal Justice.

XIV.—*Civil Justice.*—No records of complaints are kept. In matters of debts, the parties are brought up, and in event of the claim being disputed, but nevertheless appearing to be just, the debtor is warned to pay the demand. In case of refusal, coercion is seldom resorted to, though occasionally imprisonment follows; and when this has the effect of inducing the debtor to pay the debt, the State takes a share, at discretion, and makes over the balance to the creditor. In the event of the debtor being contumacious, and a man of substance, recourse is had to attachment of his property, &c.

Criminal Justice.—Cases of a trivial nature, such as abuse, assault, petty theft, and adultery, are visited with fines, which are levied by the subordinate District Officers. If an appeal is made personally to the Raja, he summons the parties before him, and investigates the case. No records are kept, nor is there any prescribed scale of jurisdiction. Cases of adultery are usually settled by the imposition of a lump fine on the two persons concerned, ranging from Rs. 35 to Rs. 100; and, in default of payment, the female is retained for the purposes of the Raja, and the man is also kept by him as a servant. In the event of a man or woman being convicted of witchcraft, they are fined according to their circumstances, and, failing in the payment thereof, their noses and tongues are sometimes cut off. In regard to the serious crimes of murder, and gang and other serious robberies, written depositions and defences are taken by the Raja himself; but it does not appear

that any other written records are kept. Punishments are inflicted according to the discretion of the Chief, and are not regulated by any established rules or regulations. No person is required to assist in the trial of such cases, although the Dewan and Prudhan, if present, may be consulted.

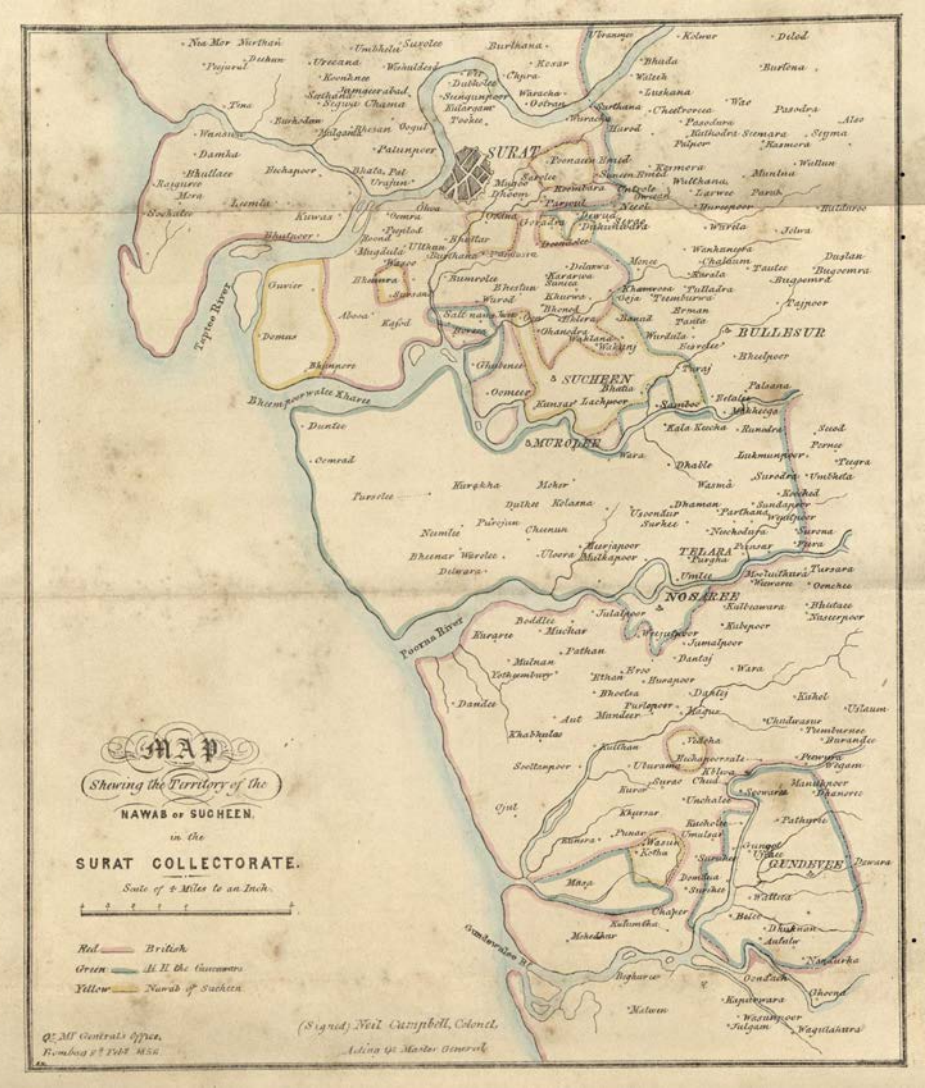
XV.—Offenders being in good circumstances are fined, or, like others, are imprisoned, or receive corporal punishment, which is inflicted with a leather whip, or a switch. Confinement in the stocks is practised, as also the exaction of hard labour in irons, the State furnishing subsistence. The duration of imprisonment is at the sole discretion of the Raja.

Nature of Punishments.

Educational Measures. XVI.—None exist.

Vaccination. XVII.—Not in operation. Native inoculation prevails, and is not interfered with by the State.

Prevalent Diseases. XVIII.—Fever and ague.


MAP
Shewing the Territory of the
NAWAB or SUCHEEN
in the
SURAT COLLECTORATE.
Scale of 4 Miles to an Inch.
Red British
Green H. H. the Guicowars
Yellow Nawab of Suchéen
SURAT
BULLESUR
SUCHEEN
MUROLEE
NOSAREE
TELARA
GUNDEVEE
Tapteee River
Poorna River
Gundevee Riv.
Wheempore wale Kharee
(Signed) Neil Campbell, Colonel,
Acting Qr Master General.
Qr Mr Generals Office,
Bombay 4th Feb. 1826.

ROUGH NOTES

CONNECTED WITH

THE SUCHEEN ESTATE,

IN THE SURAT COLLECTORATE.

BY

MR. W. H. HARRISON,

AGENT FOR THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR.

Submitted to Government in June and July 1854.

SUCHEEN ESTATE.

THE Nuwab of Sucheen is by descent a Hubshee, or Abyssinian. When his ancestors first came to India is doubtful, but they were long known on the Western Coast of India, under the designation of the Seedees of Dunda Rajapoor and Junjeera, as the admirals of the fleets of the Kings of Ahmednuggur and Bejapoor, in the Deccan, whilst those dynasties lasted, and subsequently of the Mogul Emperors, to which office they were appointed by Aurungzeeb about the year 1660, with an annual assignment of three lakhs of rupees on the Surat revenues for their maintenance.

On the decline of the Mogul Empire, they became notorious pirates, plundering the ships of all nations, with the exception of the English, whose friendship they appear to have early cultivated ;—so much so, that in the articles of the Agreement which was entered into with Seoram Punt Tattia, on behalf of the Peshwa, in 1761, it is particularly stipulated that the whole jurisdiction and territories of Rajapoor shall be restored to the Seedees of Junjeera in the same condition and manner as they were before they had been invaded, and that the country should not be molested in future by any of the Muratha officers or subjects. From that time till 1784, the Seedees maintained their independence, through the protection afforded them by the Bombay Government, against the power of the Peshwas, who had always evinced a desire to possess themselves of their territories when an opportunity offered. In that year, on the death of Seedee Abdool Rahim, the chief authority in the State was usurped by Seedee Johur, one of his dependents, to the exclusion of his eldest son, Abdool Kureem Yakoot Khan, commonly called Baloo Meeah, who thereupon fled to Poona, where he resided for some years under the protection of Sir Charles Malet, then British Resident at the Court of the Peshwa. The opportunity thus afforded of improving the friendship of the Murathas, by breaking off their connection with the Seedees, was not lost sight of by Lord Cornwallis ; and negotiations were set on foot with the view of obtaining for Baloo Meeah a territory of equal value in some other part of the country, on condition of his resigning his rights in Rajapoor in favour of the Peshwa.

Baloo Meeah readily entered into these views, and having formally resigned his claims to the inheritance of his ancestors, a Treaty was concluded between

the Peshwa and Sir Charles on the part of the English, bearing date 6th June 1791, by which the former agreed to cede in perpetuity to Baloo Meeah a territory in Guzerat, and the latter to abstain from affording the reigning Seedees any assistance should the Murathas attempt to conquer their territories. An engagement was concluded at the same time with Abdool Kureem, dated 15th Shaban, A. H. 1205, by which he promised to abide by the terms that had been entered into by the contracting parties. Baloo Meeah soon afterwards set out to take possession of his new Government. The territory which was made over to him was the Satragaum Purguna, consisting of seventeen detached villages, in the neighbourhood of Surat, which was then estimated to yield a net annual revenue of Rs. 75,000. He arrived at Surat, and after a short residence proceeded to Sucheen, in his own territory, which he had fixed upon as the seat of his Government. The title of Nuwab he subsequently obtained on application, and the payment of a Nuzurana, from the Court of Delhi, and thus became Nuwab of Sucheen. He afterwards changed his residence to Lachpoor, another village in his territory, situated on the river of that name.

Baloo Meeah died on the 9th July 1802, and was succeeded by his son Ibrahim Mahomed Yakoot Khan, who died on the 25th March 1853, and was succeeded by his eldest son Seedee Abdool Kureem Khan, the present Nuwab, who is now living at Lachpoor in very reduced circumstances, the result of his forefathers' extravagance. The whole of his villages, with the exception of Sucheen and Lachpoor, were in 1835 taken under Government management, with a view to the liquidation of his debts, the last Nuwab having solicited the interference of Government to this end. Under these arrangements the revenues of the sequestrated villages are managed by the Collector, a sum of Rs. 26,000 per annum, including the revenue of the two reserved to him, being secured to the Nuwab, and the remainder paid in instalments to his creditors. In this manner Rs. 5,83,873 have been paid, leaving a balance still to be liquidated of Rs. 7,81,235.

The late Nuwab left a very large family, forming a body of needy hangers-on, dependent for their support upon the present Nuwab, who has also children of his own, sons and daughters. The administration of justice, civil and criminal, in the sequestrated villages, is in the hands of the British Government.

The net revenue of the sequestrated villages for last year was Rs. 52,234-4-9, and the two reserved to him are estimated to produce on an average Rs. 9,702-4-0 per annum.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONNECTED WITH THE SUCHEEN ESTATE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

I.—Nuwab Seedee Abdool Kureem Mahomed Yakoot Khan Saheb Moobazuroot Dowla Noosrut, Jung Bahadoor; fifty-two years old.

Usual Place of Residence.

II.—Lachpoor.

Names and Ages of Legitimate Male Issue, and of the Principal Persons of the Court.

III.—Seedee Ibrahim Khan *alias* Buroo Meeah, twenty-one years old, eldest son; Seedee Abdool Gufice *alias* Mujloo Meeah, nineteen years old, second son; Seedee Abdool Rahim *alias* Chotoo Meeah, twelve years old, youngest son.

Whether Tributary or not; if so, to whom, and Annual Amount of Tribute.

IV.—Not tributary.

Estimated Gross Annual Revenue.

V.—The average gross revenue per annum is Rs. 83,000.

Boundaries of Territory, and estimated Area in Square Miles.

VI.—The villages belonging to this Government are scattered, and they are severally surrounded by British and Gaekwar territory, so that the boundaries and area of the State cannot be defined.

Prevailing Nature of the Soil, usual Means of Irrigation, and general Features of the Country.

VII.—The soil is in some places black, and in others Gorat. The irrigation is dependent upon tanks and wells, and the populace chiefly maintain themselves by cultivation.

Natural and Industrial Resources.

VIII.—Mango, tamarind, dates, babool, plantain, sugar, rice, jowaree, bajree, cotton, moog, toor, &c. No manufactures.

Routes, Approaches, and Means of Communication by Land and Water.

IX.—All the villages, except Domus, which stands on the sea coast, and Lachpoor, situated on the river Meendola, near its mouth, are approached only by land.

Climate, and Average Range of Thermometer.

X.—The climate is favourable, and the average range of thermometer is from 80° to 90°.

Average Annual Fall of Rain.

XI.—The average annual fall of rain cannot be stated; the average fall at Surat probably closely approximates to it.

Estimated Population.

XII.—The population is estimated at thirteen thousand souls.

Religion, Language, Tribes, and Castes.

XIII.—Hindoo, Mahomedan, and Parsee, are the prevalent religions. The languages chiefly spoken are the Guzerathee and the Musulmanee. The chief castes inhabiting the country are Brahmins, Bathelas, Rajpoots, Kolees, Dhairas, &c. The tribes are Hindoos, Parsees, and Musulmans.

XIV.—Civil and criminal justice, except in the villages under Government sequestration, which are administered according to the Regulations, are managed according to the ancient Moglaee mode, by taking into consideration the depositions of the witnesses, and the documents produced in each case.

Brief notice of the Mode in which Civil and Criminal Justice are Administered.

XV.—The punishments for criminal offences committed in the villages under sequestration are awarded according to the Regulations. Sentence of imprisonment and fine is passed for offences committed in the villages in the Nuwab's possession. The crime of murder is punished by taking the life of the offender.

Nature of Punishments awarded for Criminal Offences.

XVI.—Education is provided for by Guzerathee schools, and Parsee Muktubs.

Educational Measures.

XVII.—Every assistance is rendered to the agents of the British Government who visit this part of the country to vaccinate the children.

Progress of Vaccination.

XVII.—The people suffer by cholera, and other such diseases; but there is no prevalent disease throughout the country.

Prevalent Diseases.

SUCHEEN.

Agreement between the Honorable East India Company *and the* Peshwa.

Agreement between the Honorable United English East India Company *and the* Peshwa, Madhow Rao Narain Pundit Prudhan Bahadoor, *settled by Mr.* Charles Warre Malet, *Resident of the said Honorable United East India Company at the Court of Poona, by virtue of the full powers delegated to him by the Right Honorable* Charles, Earl Cornwallis, *K.G., Governor General in Council, appointed by the Honorable the Court of Directors of the said United Company to direct and control all their Affairs in the East Indies relative to the Forts of Junjeera, Dunda, Rajapoor, Consaw, and Mudgur, with their Dependencies, in the Country of Konkun, now in the possession of the Abyssinians, and of which* Seedee Abdool Kureem Khan, *commonly styled* Baloo Meeah, *was Heir, but who has by his own free will and consent resigned by a written Instrument all claim thereto, agreeably to the following Articles:—*

Article I.

I, Seedee Abdool Kureem Khan, have by a written Instrument resigned to the Sirkar of Rao Pundit Prudhan Bahadoor, all claim to my hereditary

territory, with its forts, and all effects, great and small, contained therein; the said Rao Pundit Prudhan Bahadoor having on his part agreed to grant me, and my heirs for ever, free from all claim or incumbrance, and without reserve, a territory, under the denomination of Altumgha, in the province of Guzerat, on the sea coast, in one quarter, and as far as possible contiguous in its parts, yielding a revenue (to be computed from the best collection of the collections of ten preceding years under the Peshwa Government) equal to the revenue of Junjeera, and its dependencies aforesaid, as collected in the most productive year of ten years preceding the present. A portion of the said territory, producing the yearly revenue of seventy-five thousand rupees, is to be granted me Altumgha at present; the remainder to be put in my possession in the same year. That the aforesaid forts and districts may fall into the possession of the Sirkar of the said Pundit Prudhan, in which the condition of contiguity to the former grant is to be observed with all possible punctuality.

ARTICLE II.

I agree to proceed, with my brother, relations, and dependents, to reside on the territory previously granted to me, on which, and on that hereafter to be granted, I agree not to construct any fort or place of greater strength than may be necessary for my protection against Grasias and freebooters. I engage to conduct myself peaceably and justly, to create no feuds or disturbances; to join no enemy of the Honorable English East India Company, or of Rao Pundit Prudhan Bahadoor, nor to act hostilely toward them.

ARTICLE III.

If Rao Pundit Prudhan Bahadoor permit any part of my abovementioned hereditary territory to remain in the possession of any Abyssinian, or other person, for the promotion of his own objects; or should he, after getting possession of the said territory, dispose of any part thereof, by gift or otherwise, no deduction is to be made on that account from my Altumgha, of which I am to be put in full possession on the cessation of hostilities between the Peshwa and the said districts of Junjeera, according to this agreement, on a calculate of the full produce of revenue of the dependencies of Junjeera, as above mentioned.

The said Seedee Abdool Kureem Khan having by the foregoing three Articles relinquished all his hereditary titles and possessions to Rao Pundit Prudhan, and an engagement being thereby entered into between the parties, neither is to deviate therefrom; and Rao Pundit Prudhan is at liberty to pursue such modes, and at such times, as he may think proper, to get possession of the aforesaid forts and dependencies, that are at present in the hands of other Abyssinians, to whom no assistance will be given by the Honorable Company. This being agreed to by the Sirkars of the Honorable Company and Rao Pundit Prudhan, written Instruments, executed by Rao Pundit Prudhan on the one part, and Mr. Malet on the other, specifying the same, have been

exchanged ; the said Mr. Malet having engaged to procure and deliver to Rao Pundit Prudhan Bahadoor a copy ratified by the Right Honorable the Governor General in Council, on the delivery of which the Treaty executed by Mr. Malet shall be returned.

Signed and Sealed in Poona, the 6th June 1791.

(Signed) CHARLES W. MALET,
Resident.

The Company's Seal.

Exchanged 12th June 1791.

(Signed) CHARLES W. MALET.

(True copy)
(Signed) JOHN MORRIS,
Secretary.

Translate of an Engagement entered into by SEEDEE ABDOOL KUREEM, *usually called* BALOO MEEAH, *with the Honorable Company's* RESIDENT AT POONA.

Baloo Meeah's Seal.

I, Seedee Abdool Kureem Khan, do hereby engage that I will faithfully abide by the Agrement into which I have entered with Rao Pundit Prudhan, through the mediation of Mr. Charles Warre Malet, the Honorable Company's Resident at Poona, vested with full powers for that purpose, and that I will in no shape whatever estrange myself from, or act inimically to, the Honorable Company. In testimony of which, I have executed this Instrument as a permanent proof thereof.

(True translate)
(Signed) JOHN W. LANKHEET,
Political Assistant at Poona.

Dated 15th Shaban, 1205 *Hijree.*

SURAT
BEARA
NONAREE
BULWARA
GUNDEVEE
CHEEKLEE
RAUTSDA
Kuttabla
Preprow
BULSAR
Pindore
SOOLGAUNA
DHURRUMPOOR
Barra
DAMAUN
KHANDESH

BULSAR
DAMAUN
SUDJUN
DHURRUMPOOR
Pindore
SOOLGAUNA
Barra
PEINT
HURSOOL
COLLECTORATE
SKETCH MAP
Shewing the Territory of the Rajas
of
DHURRUMPOOR AND BAUNSDA.
Scale 4 Miles to an Inch.
References
(Signed) Neil Campbell, Colonel,
Acting Qr Mr General.

ROUGH NOTES

CONNECTED WIT..

THE DHURUMPOOR ESTATE,

IN THE SURAT COLLECTORATE.

BY

MR. W. H. HARRISON,

AGENT FOR THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR.

Submitted to Government in June and July 1854.

DHURUMPOOR ESTATE.

The Raja of Dhurumpoor is by descent a Rajpoot, though now almost reduced to the condition of a Bheel Chief. He is said to be of the Rhatore tribe, but without being able to adduce any proof of his genealogy. It is wholly unknown when and under what circumstances his ancestors first settled in this part of India. The territory which is now in possession of the Raja is generally known as the Prant or Province of Ramnuggur. It contains extensive teak forests, and other tracts of jungly country, interspersed with villages, for the most part lying between the southern parts of the Surat Zilla and the range of Ghats leading to Khandesh. The inhabitants are an unwarlike and degenerate race, but used nevertheless frequently to resort formerly to plunder and depredation in the neighbouring States. The revenues are estimated at something more than Rs. 1,00,000 per annum, no portion of which is payable to the British Government. It however possesses the right to levy the Chouth or share in the land customs and transit duties, imposed by the Murathas when they brought the country under subjection, which was ceded to the Company by the Treaty of Bassein. According to the Schedule of that Treaty, the Chouth is estimated at Rs. 9,000 per annum; but it does not yield so large a sum. The realizations last year by the sale of the farm amounted to Rs. 6,602. This is levied by the customs department. In 1831 the present Raja, Wujehdeojee Roopdeojee, became greatly involved in debt, owing to his reckless expenditure, and the great mismanagement of his affairs. The peace of the country was threatened by the clamorous demands of his creditors through an Arab Jemadar, who had become security for the liquidation of their claims. The Raja in consequence applied to the Bombay Government for assistance, which led to an arrangement with his creditors, by which they were bound to pay him a fixed annual sum for his maintenance, and many of his villages were mortgaged to them under a Government guarantee for his non-interference, for the satisfaction of their claims, which, it is calculated, will not take place for a further period of about two years, unless the Raja takes up sums elsewhere for their liquidation, as he has before done. In the mean time the Raja has left his Raj for long intervals together, staying for several years at Surat, leading a loose and dissolute life, and at last quitting it and returning to his kingdom to avoid the execution of process issued against him in the Civil Courts. His affairs in his absence are left to be administered by

his son Ramdeojee, who is about thirty-five years of age. The Raja has since April 1853 been residing at Baroda, deaf to all remonstrances on the part of the Agent, and to the repeated advice he has since been offered, to return to his own kingdom. In December 1853 he made an application to the British Government to assist him in raising a loan of Rs. 3,25,000 at Baroda, which has been since negatived. The Raja is about fifty-two years of age.*

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONNECTED WITH THE DHURUMPOOR ESTATE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

I.—Maharana Shree Wujehdeojee Roopdeojee Rana, Raja of the Solar race, about fifty-two years old.

Usual Place of Residence.

II.—In the town of Dhurumpoor, in Ramnuggur.

Names and Ages of Legitimate Male Issue, and of the Principal Persons of the Court.

III.—Ramdeojee, the only son, about thirty-five years old; and grandson Narundeojee, about thirteen years old; Vukeel Metharam Dayaram, about sixty-four years old; Bhaee Dajeeba, about forty years old; and Sukharam and Alabhaee, heirs of the late Karbharees, about fifty and forty years of age respectively.

Whether Tributary or not; if so, to whom, and Annual Amount of Tribute.

IV.—A fourth share of the customs and excise levied is paid to the British Government as tribute. This Chouth is collected by Government servants, and amounts to from six to seven thousand rupees.

Estimated Gross Annual Revenue.

V.—The estimated gross annual revenue amounts to from seventy-five to ninety thousand rupees.

Boundaries of Territory, and estimated Area in Square Miles.

VI.—The country is twenty-four kos long from north to south, and fifteen from east to west. To the east of it lies the Soolgana Purguna, in Khandesh; to the west the Bhootsur and Bhugwara Purgunas; to the north the Chiklee Purguna,—all of the Surat Zilla, and in some places Bansda; and to the south the Penth Purguna.

Prevailing Nature of the Soil, usual Means of Irrigation, and general Features of the Country.

VII.—The soil to a limited extent is cultivable; the rest is hilly and stony. The water is supplied from the hills, and, except in Dhurumpoor, and five or six other villages, supplied by wells; it is very bad throughout the country. There is much jungle.

Natural and Industrial Resources.

VIII.—Rice, sugar, nagree, koora, and such inferior sorts of grain. No manufactures.

Routes, Approaches, and Means of Communication by Land and Water.

IX.—Communication is by land only. There are no made roads, but cart-tracks through the country, extending up the Ghats to the Deccan.

* A. D. 1854.

Climate, and Average Range of Thermometer.

X.—Owing to the badness of the water, the climate is very unhealthy, and in summer the heat is very severe. No register is kept of the thermometer, nor is such an instrument known in such a wild district.

Average Annual Fall of Rain.

XI.—No approximate estimate of the annual fall of rain can be given.

Estimated Population.

XII.—The estimated population is from ten to fifteen thousand.

Religion, Language, Tribes, and Castes.

XIII.—Hindooism is the prevalent religion; there are a few Musulmans also. The languages spoken are Guzerathee, Musulmanee, and Murathee. The different castes inhabiting the country are Kokunees, Dhondias, and Kolchas; there are also a few Rajpoots and Bhats, Purbhoos, Brahmins, and Koonbees.

Brief notice of the Mode in which Civil and Criminal Justice are Administered.

XIV.—The civil suits are decided by arbitration. As regards criminal offences, depositions are taken in the presence of the Chief, and they are decided summarily.

Nature of Punishments awarded for Criminal Offences.

XV.—Imprisonment, fine, or corporal punishment, is awarded for small offences, and imprisonment for life is awarded for a capital crime.

Educational Measures.

XVI.—There are Guzerathee and Murathee schools in the town of Dhurumpoor, and in one or two other villages which are inhabited by Koonbees Guzerathee schools also exist.

Progress of Vaccination.

XVII.—Every assistance is rendered to the agents of the British Government to extend the progress of vaccination.

Prevalent Diseases.

XVIII.—In the rainy season the people usually suffer from attacks of fever, which subsides in the hot weather. Besides this, cholera and other diseases are common.

ROUGH NOTES

CONNECTED WITH

THE BANSDA ESTATE,

IN THE SURAT COLLECTORATE.

BY

MR. W. H. HARRISON,

AGENT FOR THE RIGHT HONORABLE THE GOVERNOR, AT SURAT.

Submitted to Government in June and July 1854.

BANSDA ESTATE

THE town of Bansda, which gives its name to this Principality, is situated on the high road from the southern parts of the Surat Zilla to Khandesh, by the Soolgana Ghat. The whole territory, with the exception of a few villages bordering on the Chiklee Purguna, is dense jungle, rendering it exceedingly unhealthy at all seasons of the year. As might be expected, it is thinly peopled by barbarous tribes, and, compared to the capabilities of the soil, which is of good quality, and well watered, yields but a small amount of revenue. The Raja's income, however, is increased by the land customs and transit duties that are levied on the trade which passes through his districts. The past history of the State, or under what circumstances the present dynasty commenced, is wholly unknown. The Rajas are of Rajpoot extraction, and tradition asserts they belong to the Solunki race of Princes, who held sway in Guzerat many centuries ago, although they are now reduced to the condition of a Bheel Chief. The ruins of a fortified enclosure near Bansda, where the palace formerly stood, together with the remains of several temples and works of irrigation, appear to denote a most prosperous state of affairs at some former period; but tradition is silent regarding the time when these buildings were constructed. The Rajas most probably had possessions extending to the sea coast, from which they were gradually driven by the Mahomedans. They then sought refuge in the more jungly parts of their dominions, from which they could not be expelled, and where they were able to maintain their independence till this day in a greater or less degree. The Murathas would appear to have first brought them entirely into subjection, and by the imposition of the Chouth, which they always exacted from conquered provinces, to have reduced them to the rank of tributaries. These rights were transferred to the Company by the Treaty of Bassein, and from that period the Rajas have been tributaries to the British Government. The annual value of the Chouth which was ceded to the Company is Rs. 7,800. By the Treaty of Bassein, the Company also derived a right to share in the land customs and transit duties of the Bansda State, the value of which may be stated at nearly Rs. 2,000 per annum. The present Raja, Humeersingjee, is about twenty-six years of age. He was adopted with the approbation of the Bombay Govern-

ment, after the death of the last Raja, Oodeysing, in A. D. 1829, by the four widows conjointly of that Chief and of his predecessor, Raísing. During his minority, in consequence of abuses having come to light in the administration of affairs, by the Ranees, a manager was appointed to take charge of the principality, under the orders of the Agent for the Honorable the Governor at Surat, in whose hands the powers of Government were vested. Under this administration the resources of the State have been carefully husbanded, and on his country being made over to the Raja in April 1852, the sums of Rs. 1,30,000 invested in Government notes, and Rs. 31,455 in cash, the surplus revenues of twenty years, were handed over to him. At the same time, it was intimated to him that for three years none of this accumulation was to be expended without the sanction of the British Government. He has also been required to continue for the like period the managers and establishment appointed by the British Government, and likewise to aid in the construction of such roads as it may be considered proper should traverse his country.

The aggregate revenues of this principality, for the last year it was under the superintendence of the Agent for the Right Honorable the Governor at Surat (1850-51), amounted to Rs. 56,747-3-9. Efforts have been directed towards the improvement of the country by drainage, and clearance, from which advantageous results are already apparent. The amount of crime reported in the limits is very trifling, and the country itself highly improvable. The Raja has married two wives, but is without issue.

In the education of the Raja, during his minority, the British Government manifested great interest; but obstacles to his efficient training were not overcome, and for several years after his attaining majority his estate was not made over to him, on the ground of his unfitness for its administration. He has conducted himself well hitherto, since gaining possession of his country. In natural disposition he is docile, and well-disposed, and not addicted to any degrading vices.

Of the two objects, therefore, to which the attention of the British Government had been directed in the past twenty years, regarding this State,—the education of the prince in his minority, and the careful administration of his revenues until he became of full age,—the latter may be held to have been successfully carried out; and if the former has been less fully attained than it was hoped might be the case, there is still good reason to believe that the interest exhibited on the subject was not thrown away, and that the country under its present ruler is in an improving and satisfactory condition.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION CONNECTED WITH THE PETTY STATE OF BANSDA.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

I.—Maharawul Shree Humeersingjee Oodeysingjee Maharaj, Raja of Bansda; twenty-six years and eight months old.

Usual Place of Residence.

II.—Bansda.

Names and Ages of Legitimate Male Issue, and of the Principal Persons of the Court.

III.—The present Raja has no legitimate male issue. He has two Ranees, or wives; and his mother, Sirdarkooverba, is alive. Two old widows of the late Raja (Raisingjee), Muheeda Tejba and Chastya Tejba, about fifty-five and fifty years old respectively, are also alive, who generally reside at Nandod. The only surviving widow of Oodeysingjee,* Purtapba, is about sixty years of age.

Whether Tributary or not; if so, to whom, and Annual Amount of Tribute.

IV.—Tributary to the British Government, the annual amount of tribute being 7,800 Broach or 7,351½ Co.'s Rupees, besides a share in transit duties, collected direct by the British authorities, under the title of Chouth (fourth share), the amount of which varies.

Estimated Gross Annual Revenue.

V.—The annual gross revenue is about Rs. 61,000, exclusive of the revenue of Dhurmada, Inam, and Jageer villages, which is estimated at about Rs. 13,000.

Boundaries of Territory, and estimated Area in Square Miles.

VI.—On the north of this State lie the Annavel and Antapoor Purgunas, belonging to His Highness the Gaekwar, and the river Ambeeka; on the east the said river and several villages of the Dang and Soolgana States; on the south the Soolgana State, and the State of Durumpoor; and on the west several villages of Dhurumpoor, of the Chiklee Purguna, in the Surat Zilla, and of the Nowsaree districts, belonging to His Highness the Gaekwar. The area of this principality cannot be stated, in the absence of any survey of that part of the country.

Prevailing Nature of the Soil, usual Means of Irrigation, and general Features of the Country.

VII.—The soil is in some places black, but generally Gorat, and here and there rocky. This province may be generally described as a succession of small valleys, covered with much jungle, commencing at the foot of the Sahyadree Ghats, and running into the open country of the Surat Attaveesee Mahals. The usual opportunities for irrigation are springs, and several small rivulets which run though the different valleys. There are but few wells, but in many places throughout the country natural facilities for forming tanks are apparent, that would greatly improve its agricultural resources, and obviate the present scarcity of water which occurs in many parts in the hot season.

* The late Raja of Bansda, who died in the year 1829.

Natural and Industrial Resources.

VIII.—No manufactures: mowra and date trees; honey; and timber of every description; grain of various kinds.

Routes, Approaches, and Means of Communication by Land and Water.

IX.—There are no made roads,—nothing but cart-tracks. The country is approached by land only, having neither ports nor navigable rivers. Communication with the country above the Ghats is carried on by bullocks and ponies only; carts cannot get up the passes.

Climate, and Average Range of Thermometer.

X.—The country is somewhat unhealthy, especially from the latter end of the monsoon till the middle of winter. The average range of thermometer is from 90° to 105°.

Average Annual Fall of Rain.

XI.—The average of the annual fall of rain cannot be given.

Estimated Population.

XII.—About nineteen thousand; *i. e.* ten thousand men and nine thousand women.

Religion, Language, Tribes, and Castes.

XIII.—With the exception of Parsees and Mahomedans, who form but a fiftieth part of the above number, the population profess Hindooism. The languages chiefly spoken are Guzerathee, Murathee, and Musulmanee. The population of this district is divided into the following tribes and castes;—Konkunee, Koonbee, Dhodya, Nyaka, Doobla, Kolee, Warlee, Khalpa, Gameet, Rajpoot, Koombhar, Musulman, Chodhuree, Borah, Parsee, Dhera, Bhungya, Bheel, Sootar, Lowar, Rawulya, Marwaree, and other Bunias; Guzerathee Koonbee, Mochee, Byragee, Gosaeen, Machee, Mang, Mahar, and Weetolya.

Brief notice of the Mode in which Civil and Criminal Justice are Administered.

XIV.—Civil disputes are generally settled by arbitration. If a civil suit is decided by the Raja in favour of the complainant, it is customary to receive from that party twenty-five per cent. on the amount awarded. In cases of importance only, both civil and criminal, the proceedings are conducted in writing; and in all cases the depositions and other papers recorded are read or repeated in the presence of the Raja, and the verdict he pronounces is considered to be final. In deciding such cases, the Raja is generally assisted and advised by his Karbharee, or other subordinate Karkoons.

Nature of Punishments awarded for Criminal Offences.

XV.—Criminal offences are punished by imprisonment with hard labour, fine, and corporal punishment.

Educational Measures.

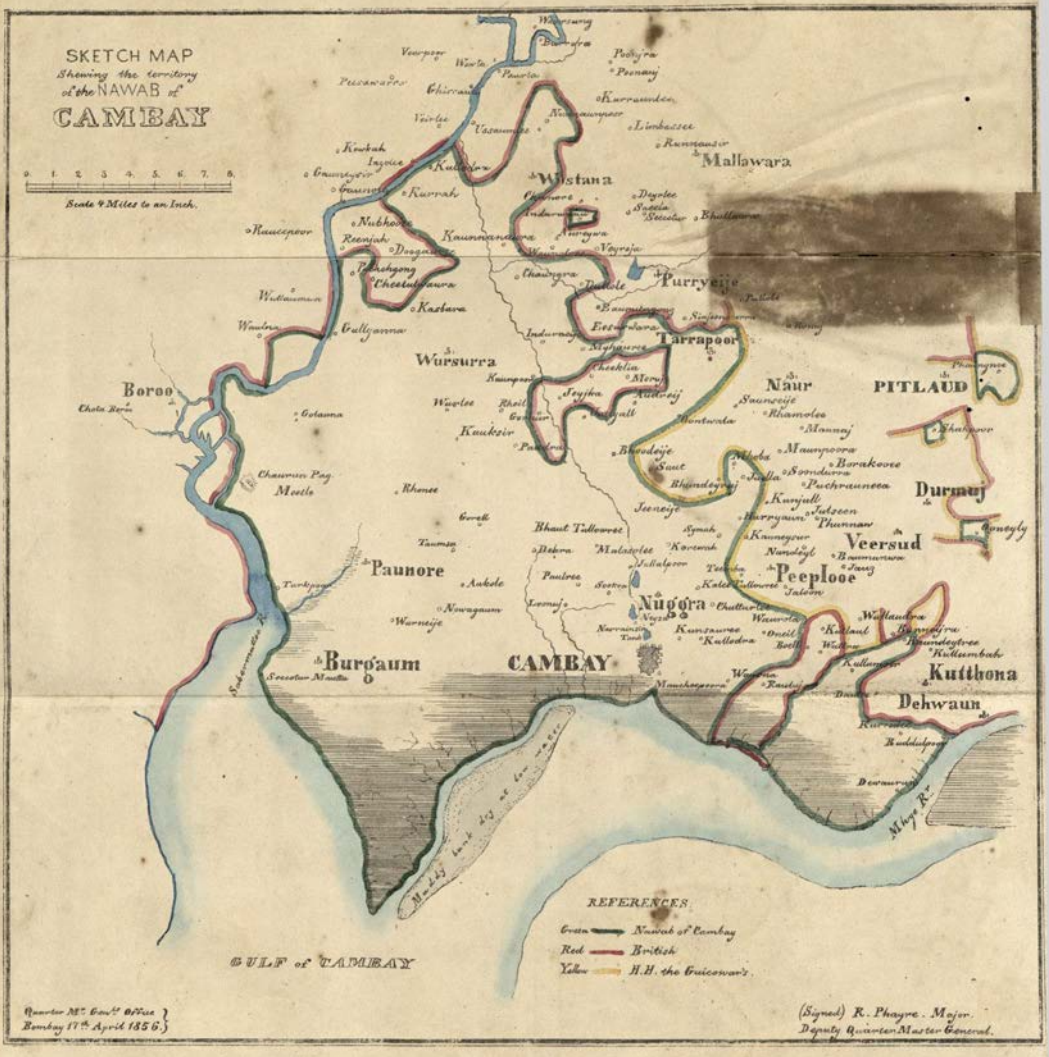
XVI.—There are two Guzerathee schools in Bansda, one provided by the Raja, and the other supported by the people.

Progress of Vaccination.

XVII.—Every facility is afforded the agents of the British Government employed in the spread of vaccination.

Prevalent Diseases.

XVIII.—Cholera, fever, and diseases incidental to densely wooded districts.


SKETCH MAP
Shewing the territory
of the NAWAB of
CAMBAY
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
Scale 4 Miles to an Inch.
Wurtuna
Veerpoor
Wirta
Pooree
Pedhyra
Peenany
Pusawarra
Chirrai
Kurraundee
Veirlee
Vasaunee
Nuggaunpoor
Limbasee
Rannaun
Mallawara
Kirkub
Jayvee
Kuddoor
Gaumeypoor
Gaurun
Kurrah
Wistana
Deydee
Soosla
Beesdee
Bhattawara
Nuthaura
Kaunnanee
Runeejah
Dugan
Vayreja
Chandpra
Dubole
Purryeije
Pullee
Wudtaunun
Kazbara
Wundra
Gullyanna
Indurnaj
Tarrapoor
Wursurra
Mogpoore
Cheetolia
Mowj
Kaurpur
Joyka
Kullooj
Boroo
Chota Boro
Wowlee
Rhoil
Gotauna
Kaukseir
Naur
PITLAUD
Saunoeije
Rhamolee
Manuaj
Bhoodeije
Maunpoora
Borakoee
Saut
Soondeera
Chaurwar Pag
Mootla
Rhenee
Bhandejaj
Puchraunee
Durmuj
Kunjull
Jeeneije
Tulseen
Bhaut Tullowee
Kaurpur
Veersud
Bamunwara
Paunore
Aukole
Nowgaum
Warneije
Peeploee
Jaloon
Nuggra
Kullodra
Burgaum
CAMBAY
Kutthona
Dehwaun
Mahy R.r
REFERENCES
Green — Nawab of Cambay
Red — British
Yellow — H.H. the Guicowar's
GULF of CAMBAY
Quarter Mr Genl's Office
Bombay 17th April 1856.
(Signed) R. Phayre. Major.
Deputy Quarter Master General.

BRIEF NOTES

CONNECTED WITH

THE ESTATE OF CAMBAY,

IN THE KAIRA COLLECTORATE.

BY

MR. J. E. OLIPHANT,

ACTING FIRST ASSISTANT TO THE COLLECTOR AND MAGISTRATE OF KAIRA.

Submitted to Government on the 8th July 1854.

CAMBAY.

I.—Hoosein Yawur Khan Bahadoor, aged about forty years. His hereditary title is Nujmoo Dole Moomtazool Moolk Momin Khan Bahadoor Dilawur Jung. He succeeded to the Musnud in March 1841, on the death of his uncle Nuwab Bunda Ali Khan, his father, who was then alive, having resigned his right in his favour.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

II.—The city of Cambay, in Guzerat, situated on the northern shore of the upper part of the Gulf of Cambay; lat. 22° 23′ N., long. 72° 48′ E.

Usual Place of Residence.

III.—The first wife of the present Nuwab, named Najoonissa, was the only daughter of his uncle, the late Nuwab Bunda Ali Khan. She had one child only, which died in its infancy. She is still alive, but has lived separate from her husband for the last twenty-two years, though no divorce, according to Mahomedan law, has taken place. The cause of separation is said to be, that on some slight shown her, she told her husband that any authority or consideration enjoyed by him was by virtue of her right, she being the daughter of the then reigning Nuwab, Bunda Ali Khan. This was the supposed origin of their quarrel.

Names and Ages of Legitimate Male Issue, and of the Principal Persons of the Court.

The eldest reputed son of the Nuwab is by a Nika wife, originally a dancing girl.* She was delivered of a son on the 11th of November 1847, named Futteh Ali Khan, now aged six and a half years.

The second reputed son of the Nuwab, whom he considers and wishes to have recognised as his heir, is by another Nika wife, daughter of one Aga Goofar, a Mogul adventurer, who settled at Cambay in A. D. 1844, and is now in the Nuwab's employ. This son is named Aga Jaffer Ali Khan, and was born on the 1st September 1848. She was also delivered of a second son on the 19th

* This lady was not translated to the Harem until *after* she was reported pregnant, and *shortly before* her delivery. She previously occupied apartments in the Nuwab's stables. It is problematical whether there was any Nika ceremony at all; and very great doubts may reasonably be entertained as to the paternity, as well as the legitimacy of this reputed son, which the Nuwab himself gives a colour to by his evident wish to repudiate him in favour of his second reputed son, the next named.

of February 1851, named Ali Yawur Khan, who died on the 13th December 1851.

A third son by her, now living, was born in November 1852, and named Najoom Khan.

A son named Khan Saheb was born on the 28th June 1851, of the daughter of the Thakoor of Ahmode, with whom the Nuwab also contracted a Nika marriage about seven or eight years ago.

A son named Aga Bakur Saheb, born in September 1852, by the daughter of the brother of the Thakoor of Ahmode.

The Nuwab has altogether five sons living.

Some mystery appears to have attached to the birth of the second reputed son, Aga Jaffer Ali Khan. On his mother being brought to bed, it was the report, for two days, that she had given birth to a *daughter*; but on a sudden this report was contradicted, and a son announced.

The names of the principal persons of the Court are as follow :—

Bugwandas, the hereditary Dewan, who enjoys the emoluments of the office, but has no authority, and no share whatever in the administration.

Pranlal Sarabhaee, a Nagur Brahmin by caste; the chief minister, entrusted with the administration of the State.

Syud Mahomed Kazim *alias* Guseta Meeah ; performs the duties of a civil judge.

Kherat Ali; acts as a private secretary.

Lakhajee (a Rajpoot of Rungpoor, near Bhownuggur, Ahmedabad Collectorate); entrusted with the revenue administration of the district.

IV.—Tributary to the Honorable Company. The annual amount paid in cash by the Nuwab of Cambay to the Honorable Company is .....Rs. 21,906 6 4

Whether Tributary or not; if so, to whom, and Annual Amount of Tribute.

Annual value of villages ceded in part payment of the original amount of tribute	3,551	1	2
	Rs. 25,457	7	6
Collections on account of house tax, and cess on certain trades, made direct by the Mamlutdar of the Chouth of Cambay.....	1,156	5	2
Collections made by the Collector of Continental Customs and Excise (including the Company's share of the salt excise duty)	32,151	3	0
Total....Rs.	58,764	15	8

V.—About Rs. 3,32,000. The resources of the district might be greatly improved under a more efficient management. The State revenues are expended chiefly on the Nuwab's pleasures, little or nothing being devoted to public works, schools, or institutions.

Estimated gross Annual Revenue.

VI.—The territory of the Nuwab is bounded on the north by the Matur Talooka, Kaira Collectorate; on the south by the Gulf of Cambay; on the east by the Borsud Talooka, Kaira Collectorate, and His Highness the Gaekwar's Purguna of Pitlaud; and on the west by the Saburmutee river and the Dholka Purguna, Ahmedabad Collectorate. The exact area in square miles is not known, but it may be put down at about three hundred and fifty square miles. The boundary line is very irregular, and some villages belonging to His Highness the Gaekwar and the Honorable Company are situated in the middle of the Cambay territory.

Boundaries of Territory, and estimated Area in Square Miles.

VII.—The soil towards the north and west is generally black, and adapted for the growth of wheat and cotton. To the eastward it is of a poorer description, adapted for the inferior sorts of grain, good crops of which are grown in favourable years. The cultivators are principally dependent on the monsoon for the means of irrigation, there being but few wells. The country generally is flat and open, interspersed here and there, generally in the vicinity of the villages, with topes of fine trees, such as the mango, tamarind, banian or burr, the neem, and the peepul.

Prevailing Nature of the Soil, usual Means of Irrigation, and general Features of the Country.

VIII.—Natural none; industrial, cornelian, cloth, and carpet manufactures. These form articles of export. A small quantity of indigo (grown within the limits of the State) is also manufactured, but not in excess of the local consumption. Salt is manufactured to a considerable extent, and exported to other parts of Guzerat.

Natural and Industrial Resources.

IX.—The routes are,—from Cambay to Kaira and Ahmedabad; from Cambay to Pitlaud and Neriad; from Cambay to Baroda; from Cambay to Dholka and Dhundooka; and from Cambay to Broach and Surat.

Routes, Approaches, and Means of Communication by Land and Water.

Cambay is approached,—from Kaira, *viâ* Ruttunpoor, Mulleeatuj, Dehwa, Sojeetra, Nar, and Hurrian; from Baroda, *viâ* the Saral and Gajna Ford, or by the Oomeeta Ford, Kunba, Wutra, and Ooneel; from Dundooka, *viâ* the Turukpoor, Metlee, Golana, and Guliana fords (at low-water only); from Dholka, the Punchgaum and Nubhoee fords; from Broach, *viâ* the Kavee ferry, and Dhewan and Dooarun fords (at low-water only).

For communication by land, there are no made roads in the limits of the Cambay territory. The mode of transit into the interior is by Native carts, camels, or pack-bullocks.

For communication by water, Native boats ply to the bunder of Cambay from Bombay, Surat, Broach, Gogo, Tankaria, and other ports, except during the monsoon months.

The Gulf forms neither a safe nor commodious harbour for shipping, by reason of the constant shifting of its bed, from the force of the tides, and currents of the rivers Myhee and Saburmutee.

Climate; Average Range of Thermometer; and Average Annual Fall of Rain.

X. and XI.—[Vide annexed report from Mr. Summers, in medical charge, Cambay.]

Estimated Population.

XII.—About one hundred and seventy-five thousand souls, including the population of the city, which may be put down in round numbers at sixty or seventy thousand. It is impossible to say accurately, no census having been taken, the Nuwab being averse to it.

Religion, Language, Tribes, and Castes.

XIII.—Religions, Hindoo, Mahomedan, Jain; languages, Hindoostanee and Guzerathee; tribes and castes,—1*st*, Hindoos, consisting of Brahmins, Wanees, Sonees (goldsmiths), Hunsaras (braziers), Pateedars or Koonbees (cultivators), Kachias (vegetable sellers), Kurrias (bricklayers), Sootars (carpenters), Malees (gardeners), Bhowsars (dyers), Durjees (tailors), Grasias, Rajpoots, Bhats, Bharotes, Charuns, Gosaeens, Byragees, Khutrees (weavers), Hujams (barbers), Lowars (blacksmiths), Golas (beaters of rice), Gundrups (musicians), Koombhars (potters), and Rawuleeas; Wild Tribes,—Kolees and Wagrees; Low Castes,—Chambars, Dhers, and Bhungyas.

2*nd*.—Jains.

3*rd*.—Mahomedans.

4*th*.—Parsees.

Brief notice of the Mode in which Civil and Criminal Justice are Administered.

XIV.—There is an Adawlut at Cambay, presided over by an old Mahomedan Syud, with a small establishment of Karkoons. He hears and decides all civil suits. His decisions are generally final, though in special cases appeals are admitted by the Nuwab, and referred for decision to one of the officers of the Durbar. When a suit is filed, the defendant is called on to put in his answer. Both parties are then called on to file their evidence (oral or documentary); the depositions of witnesses are taken down, but not authenticated by the signature of any public officer. In the absence of any fixed rules for the guidance of civil functionaries, the officer in charge of the Adawlut sometimes refers the matters in dispute to Native arbitrators, or himself passes arbitrary decisions, consulting sometimes the Hindoo or Mahomedan law, or local usage.

All criminal cases are investigated by the Kotwal, who, after the completion of the investigation, awards a certain amount of fine, subject to the confirmation of the Nuwab. In default of fine, offenders are often incarcerated for unlimited periods, at the pleasure of the Nuwab. On certain occasions, he has thrown open the prison doors, and released indiscriminately all those confined therein, as for instance in the spring of the present year, on the occasion of the serious illness of his aunt, Boozrug Khanum.

The police arrangements in the city are also superintended by the Kotwal, who has an establishment of sepoys under him, to the number of between one hundred and one hundred and fifty. These receive between three and four rupees (Company's) each per mensem, but they are very irregularly paid,

and almost always kept some months in arrears. So it is with most of the Nuwab's inferior subordinates. Under such a system, bribery and extortion are of course rife, and allowed to go almost unchecked. Throughout the district, the old village system of police appertains. Villages are mutually responsible for the production of offenders, and of stolen property. The Nuwab has a few horse and footmen (to the number of about one hundred of the former and one hundred and fifty of the latter), stationed here and there, but more with the view, I fancy, of their aiding in the collection of revenue than in the preservation of peace and prevention of crime. In addition to these, about four hundred and fifty Sebundees are kept up for duty at the town gates, collection of transit duties, &c.

Besides the above, and about five hundred retainers (half foot and half horsemen), for personal attendance on himself, the Nuwab keeps up no Native force.

Nature of Punishments awarded for Criminal Offences.

XV.—For ordinary crimes, misdemeanours, &c., fines, in default of which an indefinite period of imprisonment. In cases of offences of a more heinous nature, mutilation, imprisonment, and fine, and public disgrace; but the first punishment is very rarely resorted to.

Educational Measures.

XVI.—There are two Persian and Oordoo, and numerous Hindoo schools, conducted by private individuals, but none supported by the State.

Progress of Vaccination.

XVII.—The Nuwab has always shown himself indifferent to the advantages of extending vaccination, never rendering any real assistance in promoting this object. None of his own children have been vaccinated. When applied to by the Collector of Kaira for co-operation in promoting vaccination through his territories, his replies have always displayed utter carelessness on the subject, and, consequently, little or nothing has been done for its advancement.

Prevalent Diseases.

XVIII.—See Mr. Summers' report (annexed).

PAPER BY MR. A. SUMMERS, IN MEDICAL CHARGE, CAMBAY; ALLUDED TO IN THE FOREGOING NOTES BY MR. J. E. OLIPHANT.

Table exhibiting the Average Range of Thermometer, Wind, and Weather, for three years (1851 to 1853), and the Fall of Rain for three consecutive Years, from which the average is calculated.

Months.	Thermometer. Three Years' Mean of Minimum.	Thermometer. Three Years' Mean of Maximum.	Wind.	Weather.
January	53°	85°	Steadily NE.	Mornings cold and hazy; occasionally clear; day warm ; evenings cool and pleasant.
February	53	86	Mornings NE., veering to the WSW. in the evenings.	Mornings cold and clear, early part,—afterwards cool ; mid-day warm ; evenings and nights pleasant.
March	62	91	Variable	Mornings cool, occasionally hazy ; mid-day hot ; afternoons often stormy ; evenings cool; nights pleasant.
April	66	96	Variable ; nearly from all points.	Mornings pretty cool ; day hot ; thunder and dust-storms frequent, with a few falls of rain ; nights occasionally warm.
May	76	97	Generally WSW.	Ditto ditto ; with high winds.
June.....	78	94	Steadily SW.	Early part of mornings hot and oppressive, until the monsoon sets in ; from 10th to 20th ushered in by thunderstorms and lightning, with heavy rain, when weather cools down.
July	77	89	Ditto	Generally wet and cloudy, with thunder and lightning ; occasional breaks of sunshine.
August.....	77	88	Ditto	Ditto ditto ditto.
September ..	77	89	S. and SW.....	Less rain this month ; weather becomes hot, and monsoon terminates. Fever becomes prevalent.
October	71	93	Mornings generally NE. ; evenings WSW.	Mornings cool, occasionally hazy ; day hot, and oppressive ; with closeness in early part of the nights.
November ..	62	88	NE.....	Mornings cool, hazy, occasionally clear ; day warm ; evenings pleasant, with occasional dews at night.
December....	55	86	NE.....	Ditto ditto ditto.

Fall of Rain in Three Years.

Months.	1851. In.	1851. cts.	1852. In.	1852. cts.	1853. In.	1853. cts.	Remarks.
June	3	49	2	48	15	69	Average fall in three years 29 inches 30 cents.
July	21	80	6	23	7	47	
August	12	54	14	76	1	67	
September	0	31	1	46	....		
Total..	38	14	24	93	24	83	

MEDICAL NOTES BY MR. A. SUMMERS, IN MEDICAL CHARGE, CAMBAY.

HEALTH AND DISEASE.—Cambay being situated within the influence of sea-breezes, and not being subject to extremes of heat and cold, enjoys a more equable temperature, and a milder climate throughout the year, and is comparatively healthier, than stations in the interior of Guzerat. It is also more exempt from the severer character of remittent fever and coup-de-soleil, enjoying an immunity from many diseases peculiar to other climates; but fever is its bane.

Fever.—Fever, of the remittent and intermittent types, is the most prevalent disease in Guzerat,—the latter almost throughout the year, and the former in the months of April, May, June, September, and October.

Cholera.—This hydra-headed disease, which exerts its baneful influence throughout India with more or less severity, is more mild in its ravages in Guzerat. At times, when the disease is committing serious ravages at Ahmedabad, Kaira, and their vicinity, Cambay enjoys comparative immunity, or is but slightly threatened.

Catarrhal Affections, with some degree of sympathetic fever, are prevalent from October to the month of January, yielding easily to mild remedial measures.

Diarrhœa and *Dysentery* prevail chiefly during the monsoon months, but not in a very severe form, and are readily subdued by the usual means resorted to.

Rheumatic Affections are not very prevalent, the few cases brought occasionally under notice being generally strumous subjects. The disease yields to preparations of iodine, colchicum, iron, Dover's powder, tonics, and aperients, and, if a necessity exist, leeching and blistering.

Dropsies in the town are rare, but more common among the village population, being the sequelæ of fever, spleen, and liver affections. During the wet season there are always stagnant swamps, impregnated with deleterious matter, in the neighbourhood of the villages. This is the ordinary exciting cause of the fever, generally intermittent. A diseased state of the system, with consequent deranged secretions, is maintained by the same cause, which, combined with their being badly housed, and scantily clad, leads to a train of derangement terminating in dropsy.

Measles and *Small-pox* prevail among the children in the months of April, May, and June, the latter not to any alarming extent, as vaccination is practised, and the inhabitants of the town are fully sensible of its beneficial effects.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

OF

THE CITY OF CAMBAY,

FROM SANSKRIT AND PERSIAN BOOKS, AND ORAL TRADITION:

COMPRISING A

BRIEF SKETCH OF THE PROVINCE OF GUZERAT,

AT VARIOUS PERIODS.

BY

LIEUTENANT H. D. ROBERTSON,

5TH REGIMENT BOMBAY NATIVE INFANTRY,

COMMANDING (IN 1813) THE ESCORT OF THE RESIDENT AT BARODA.

Submitted to Government on the 13*th September* 1813.

CAMBAY.

Guzerat, one of the principal Subas of Hindoostan, was inhabited in former times by Rajpoots and Kolees. We read in the Dwarka Mahatim of the wives of Shree Krishn having been attacked by Kolees on their flight through Kattywar and Guzerat, after the death of their celestial husband, and the immersion of the famous island of Dwarka in the ocean. These Rajpoots and Kolees were ever in a state of rebellion, and though frequently restrained by some powerful ruler of Hindoostan, yet they invariably (even the most petty chiefs) assumed independence during the reign of a weak prince. Pethore Deo, the successor of a train of puerile emperors, received, on his accession to the throne of Hindoostan, the obedience of a very few provinces surrounding Kanoje, but by his decisive and bold measures he established his authority over a great portion of the countries ruled by his more eminent predecessors.

Yezdijerd, the third King of Persia, was defeated, A. D. 636, by the Arabian followers of Mahomed, and it is probable that the Parsees of Guzerat sailed from Persia about the end of the seventh or beginning of the eighth century. A great number of their ships foundered at sea in a storm, and only a few arrived at Sejam, a bluff point about seventy miles south of Surat. The Zumindars in that quarter, conceiving that they must have come with designs of conquest, prevented them from landing; and, in consequence of their ignorance of the language of the country, they remained on ship-board many days. At length, some of their priests, who had learnt a little Sanskrit, contrived to make themselves understood, and having satisfied the Rajpoots that their views were solely to obtain protection, compassion induced them to receive them, on condition that the men would wear turbans, the women Gagras; that they should speak the Guzerathee language, and abstain from beef.

The Parsees remained for many years in the vicinity of Sejam, where they had landed, and pursued a coasting trade; but as they increased in numbers, they spread over the neighbouring districts, settling themselves in Verion, Nowsaree, Broach, Bombay, and latterly in Kooarka Kheshiter, the ancient name of Cambay. The holy temple of Kooarka was surrounded by a small town, to which the Parsees repaired at first in small numbers, but afterwards in greater, from the report of the profits of their brethren. They at length increased to so great a body that they outnumbered the original inhabitants, whom, desirous to have the trade entirely to themselves, they harassed, by breaking into their houses during the night, and robbing by force of all their

property. A general panic took place, and the Hindoos, abandoning their homes, the Parsees remained the sole possessors of ancient Cambay.

Among those who fled was a man of the Dusalar caste of Bunias. He took refuge in Surat, where he acquired great wealth in a short time, by trading in pearls. His wealth gave him consequence, and he had the address to get together a numerous band of Rajpoots and Kolees, who in the night attacked the Parsees, putting many to the sword, and setting fire to their houses. The rest took to flight, and not a Parsee was to be seen in Kooarka Kheshiter.

This man, whose name was Kullian Rae, then formed the design of building a city on the ruins of the Parsee town, and after it was commenced he gave it the name of Khumbayut. "Khumb" in Guzerathee signifies "a foundation-stone" (the laying of which is attended by certain ceremonies), and "Ayut" means "resting on,"—thereby implying that the city would be permanent.

Kullian Rae spared no pains in collecting inhabitants for his new city. His police regulations were so excellent, and so few robberies were heard of, that it induced many to come and reside there, who otherwise would have remained in their old places of abode. He granted immunities to merchants and traders, and drew many wealthy men to Cambay from the neighbouring ports.

He built the walls of the fort, with seven gates, besides sallyports. On the east were the Guwarey and Chakee gates, the last of which Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan blocked up; to the west there was only one gate, called Chukamlee; on the north were the Peet and Futteh gates; and in the southern wall were the Mukee and Phoorza. A sallyport was made in the eastern face, close to the Madula tank. In the south wall was the Bhoee sallyport, so called from the houses close to it being inhabited by Hamals or Bhoees.

The following are some of the works of Kullian Rae:—The Madula tank, and the well in its vicinity close to the fort,—on the well is inscribed the year of its being built, but it is illegible, from the ravages of time; the pagoda dedicated to Mahung Kaleshwur, at present in existence; the Manik Chok; the salt-pans; several wells within the fort, and the bazars, the most extraordinary of which is the Turpoleea, or three-gated bazar (this bazar contained three others, called the Goojra, Egla, and Chetaree bazars, running from north to south; the Goojra and Chetaree gates are still standing, and are merely arches thrown across the street); the Kotwal's Chubootra, still to be seen; the twenty-four houses for Brahmins, at present inhabited by Nagur Brahmins.

During the life of Kullian Rae a dancing girl took up her abode at Cambay, who had amassed great wealth in the practice of her profession. She dug nine tanks in and in the vicinity of the city, the names of every one of which she determined should begin with the letter N; the names of those now in existence are as follow:—Narungsir, Neera, Neyza, and Nutwa. The Nugeena tank, which this woman built, was filled up by Nazum Khan, who made a garden on the spot, that is now in existence.

In the time of Kullian Rae, the Guzerathee language was esteemed for its beauty. Towards the close of a government of many years, he had the gratification to see a very considerable trade carried on through his port. Originally Cambay had no dependent villages, but there is a tradition that Kullian Rae received the voluntary homage of eighty-four villages; and, in consequence of this number, the Purguna of Cambay has been called the Chowrasee Purguna, or the Purguna of eighty-four.

Sultan Vella-ood-deen Kheljee, who commenced his reign in Delhi in A. H. 695 (A. D. 1295), sent an army, under the command of Nusrut Khan Jaleseree and Ulug Khan, to reduce Guzerat, in A. D. 1297. They took, according to Ferishta, the capital city, Nehrwalla, first; but the Tubukat-i-Akberi mentions that they advanced direct to Cambay, which was then famous for being a place of riches; whence, after plundering the city, and laying waste the surrounding districts, they proceeded to Nehrwalla, which they reduced. Ulug Khan was appointed Suba of the conquered province, and resided twenty years in Nehrwalla or Puttun. Cambay was from this time under the government of the Musulmans, and the first of their agents was established there in A. H. 697 (A. D. 1297). Ulug Khan was succeeded by eleven Subas, who governed Guzerat in Puttun.

Mulik Mufurre, entitled Rastee Khan, the tenth of the eleven successors of Ulug Khan, was a man of a tyrannical disposition, and excited by his oppressive acts the resentment of the Guzerathees so much, that they preferred a petition for his removal to Sultan Mahomed Shah IV. (son of Ghyas-ood-deen Tuglugh Shah), who appointed Zuffur Khan to supersede him in the Subaship of Guzerat. When Zuffur Khan arrived at Nagore, many of the inhabitants of Cambay, who had particularly suffered oppression, personally came to entreat him to be speedy in the execution of his orders. Zuffur treated them kindly, and wrote a letter to the tyrant, who gave him no reply, but, collecting troops from all quarters, erected the banners of rebellion. He was, however, defeated by Zuffur Khan's troops at the village of Gambhoo, and Zuffur Khan assumed the Governorship of Guzerat in A. H. 794 (A. D. 1391).

Zuffur Khan revolted from Mahomed Shah V., who had succeeded Mahomed Shah IV., and in A. H. 796 (A. D. 1393) proclaimed himself King of Guzerat. Tatar Khan, his son, placed his father in confinement in the year A. H. 806 (A. D. 1403), and assumed the title and dignity of king, under the name of Mahomed Shah. Tatar Khan, however, died in A. D. 1407, and his father again became king, under the title of Moozuffur Shah. The destiny of Moozuffur Shah was to be murdered by his grandson, Ahmed, who mounted the throne in A. D. 1415, and during his reign built Ahmedabad.

The Kings of Guzerat were fourteen in number, and reigned one hundred and seventy Mahomedan years, reckoning from the time when Moozuffur Shah succeeded his son in A. H. 810 (A. D. 1407), till A. H. 980 (A. D. 1572), when Guzerat became a province of the Empire of Akbar. Some time after the death of Kullian Rae, the port of Gogo was declared a dependency on Cambay,

and during the whole of the time of the Kings and Subas of Guzerat, the large vessels filled with merchandize for Cambay unloaded their cargoes at Gogo, whence they were sent in small craft to Cambay. The boats in former times had so quick a passage from Cambay to Gogo that it became a common expression among the Hindus, "Khambayut no Khijree, Gogeh no Ghee"; thereby meaning that if one began to cook his rice on board a vessel setting sail from Cambay, he would arrive in time enough to buy ghee in Gogo to eat with it.

During the reign of Sultan Bahadoor, the tenth of the Kings of Guzerat, the port of Cambay was in a most flourishing condition. It was during this king's reign that the Portuguese first appeared at Cambay and Diu. On arriving at Diu, they erected the flag of their nation, but when the Sultan heard of it, he advanced in great haste, and the Portuguese withdrew, leaving large guns behind them, the like of which had never been seen in Hindoostan before.

About this time Humayoon, the son of Baber, advanced with an army to Guzerat, and Sultan Bahadoor, sending all his treasures and valuables from Champaneer to Diu, went himself to Cambay. Humayoon followed him so closely that he escaped from Cambay the very morning of that prince's arrival. He took refuge in Diu, and, alarmed at the success of Humayoon, applied for assistance to the Portuguese. Humayoon, however, retired before they arrived, and the Sultan began to wish he had not made this application. He then left Diu, but very soon learnt that five thousand Portuguese had arrived opposite that place. These men, enraged at finding they had been put to so much trouble for no purpose, determined on seizing Diu, and on having no interview or communication with the Sultan. When the Portuguese commander was called before the Sultan, he excused himself by saying he was sick, and could not attend him. The Sultan, conceiving they were afraid of some treachery on his part, determined to go on board their ships, and so efface any bad impression they might entertain. He accordingly embarked in a small boat, with a few attendants, and visited the Portuguese commander; but when, on his return, he was about to step into his boat from the side of the ship, the Portuguese removed the boat, and he fell into the sea. He appeared in a few moments above water, when the Portuguese struck him on the head, and he sank for ever. The Sultan's army, on hearing the news of this event, fled to Ahmedabad, and the Portuguese took possession of Diu. This happened in A. H. 943 (A. D. 1536).

During the dissensions which took place in Guzerat in the reign of its last king, Akbar advanced with an army in A. H. 980 (A. D. 1572), and established his authority over it, without one battle. He visited Cambay, and added to its population by giving it two Pooras or suburbs. He appointed his agents throughout the whole province.

The Kings of Delhi ruled Guzerat one hundred and eighty-six Mahomedan years, from A. H. 980 (A. D. 1572) till the incursions of the Murathas, and the

establishment of their power under Rugoonath Rao, during the government of the last of the Mogul Subas, Juwan Murd Khan Babee, in A. H. 1166 (A. D. 1752). In this period fifty-five Subas succeeded each other, a detailed account of whose transactions is here unnecessary.

The founder of the family of Cambay, and the fifty-fourth Subadar of Guzerat, was Meerza Jaffer Nizam-i-Sanee, entitled Nizam-ood-Dowla Momin Khan Bahadoor. His history will be seen in the sequel.

Daood Khan Punee was appointed Subadar of Guzerat in the commencement of the reign of Feroksere III., in A. H. 1125 (A. D. 1713). Humeed Khan, Daood Khan's Deputy, on proceeding to Guzerat, obtained the appointments of Motvim Khan as his Dewan, and of Meerza Abdool Hussein (Dehlumee), more generally known by his title of Momin Khan, to the agency for Government in the ports of Surat and Cambay, and to the superintendence of the crown districts Dholka, Pitlaud, and Broach. The Dehlemite dynasty of Persian Kings from whom this Momin Khan was descended was founded in A. H. 321 (A. D. 932), by Ahmed-ood-Dowla, the son of Booia, a fisherman, who claimed a descent from Behramgor, the Gurdhur Senh of the Persians. Momin Khan Dehlumee came from Persia, and entered the service of the Delhi Emperor. He first came into Guzerat with Sirbulund Khan.

Daood Khan held the Subaship of Guzerat only a few months, and was succeed by Ujeet Sing, Rana of Jodhpoor, who received the Government as a reward for having given his beautiful daughter in marriage to the Emperor. Both Ahmed Khan and Momin Khan Dehlumee lost their appointments by the new arrangements. Ujeet Sing was shortly afterwards removed from Guzerat, but was soon reinstated, and with him Momin Khan Dehlumee as Agent for Government in Surat.

In almost all histories of Mahomedan princes we are informed, that when a prince of weak intellect succeeded to the throne, rebellions of the nobles holding the principal offices and commands in the empire generally took place.

The Sultans of Hindoostan, previous to the brilliant career of the Muratha Chiefs, had for many years been unable to maintain in due allegiance the governors of their distant provinces. When any Nuwab was suspected of pretensions to independence, his commission was annulled, and a new one issued in favour of some other noble. The new Nuwab had almost always to fight a battle, sometimes two or three, before he could assume the dignity to which his appointment had raised him. Two causes seem to have produced opposition on the part of the governors who were removed,—one, if they really had thrown off their allegiance, to preserve their independence; the other, if they were innocent, the dread of the severe punishment which in Mahomedan Courts generally followed even the suspicion of crime. The consequences attendant on the appointment of a new governor were the destruction of several districts and towns, and almost invariably the overthrow of the old Nuwab.

Mahomed Shah Padshah's reign, which commenced in Hindoostan in

A. D. 1718, is famous for its imbecility, for the invasion of his Empire by Nadir Shah, and for the revolts of provinces induced by that event. The wily Murathas protected many unfortunate Nuwabs, driven from their Governments, and ruined in their fortunes, sometimes justly, but more frequently by the intrigues of a powerful courtier, who by his influence was enabled to get an innocent man accused of a crime, and to be appointed to his situation. Revenge appears to have been a passion freely indulged by the nobles of Hindoostan; nor is it surprising that men fostered in the lap of luxury, and instructed from their childhood that the support of their own consequence, and of that of their family, ought to form the great object of their lives, could but ill brook disgrace, or that they should be eager by any means to molest those who had ruined their fortunes and respectability. The Murathas were as glad to protect such men as they were happy to have their support.

In A. H. 1134 (A. D. 1721) Hyder Kulee Khan was appointed Suba of Guzerat, Ujeet Sing being removed. On this occasion Momin Khan Dehlumee again lost his appointment, and remained unemployed one year; but on the appointment of Asoph Jah Nizam-ool-Moolk to the Subadaree, he was again made Agent in Surat. A nobleman of the name of Ahmed Khan governed Guzerat for Asoph Jah, and it was during his administration that, in the year A. D. 1722, the first incursion of the Murathas into Guzerat took place. Kunthajee plundered Dohud and Godra, and Pillajee plundered Surat.

Momin Khan advanced to punish Pillajee, but was himself defeated.

Mooburuz-ool-Moolk Sirbulund Khan, with whom Momin Khan had first come into Guzerat, as a companion, was reappointed to the Subadaree in A. H. 1136 (A. D. 1723). He ruled Guzerat by his Deputy Soojanit Khan, who promoted Momin Khan to the office of his Dewan. Ahmed Khan, the ex-Deputy of Asoph Jah, highly resenting the loss of his power, resolved on exciting disturbances, and by Asoph Jah's advice he erected the banners of rebellion. Having formed a treaty with Kunthajee and Pillajee, ceding to them a Chouth of the revenues of Guzerat if they would assist his views, he advanced rapidly to Kupperwunj, and from thence to Motia Medara. Here he was met by Soojanit Khan, and a battle ensuing, Soojanit Khan was slain, and Ahmed Khan assumed the direction of affairs in Guzerat. Kunthajee took on himself the collection of the Chouth north of the Myhee, and Pillajee south of it.

Moobaruz-ool-Moolk, collecting a large army, advanced to Ahmedabad, to reinstate himself in the power which his Deputy had lost to him. Ahmed Khan, unable to oppose him, fled, and was escorted in safety by the Murathas across the Myhee. On establishing his authority, Moobaruz-ool-Moolk appointed Nizam-ood-Dowla Nizam-i-Sanee (afterwards fifty-fourth Subadar of Guzerat, and founder of the family of Cambay) to be the commander of the troops in Pitlaud. Kunthajee and Pillajee went on plundering expeditions, and had frequent battles with Nizam-ood-Dowla.

This Nizam-ood-Dowla, whose name was Meerza Jaffer, was a descendant

of the Nizam-i-Sanee family, who acquired that appellation during the reign of Shah Ismal Sufaee, King of Persia, who had seven Ministers of State, the second in rank among whom was the ancestor of Meerza Jaffer. Meerza Jaffer came into Guzerat a very poor man, but on his being appointed commander of the Pitkaud troops, he was honoured with the hand of the daughter of Momin Khan Dehlumee, whose story is above related. Meerza Jaffer's fortunes were commenced by his father-in-law, Momin Khan Dehlumee.

Two years after Moobaruz-ool-Moolk had been in Guzerat, he entertained rebellious designs, and entered into a correspondence with Kunthajee, which ended in that Muratha receiving a fourth part of the revenues of his Suba, on promise of supporting Moobaruz-ool-Moolk against the Emperor. Moobaruz-ool-Moolk then seized the revenues of the crown lands, in consequence of which his conduct was reported to the Emperor. An order was immediately issued for the confiscation of Moobaruz-ool-Moolk's lands in the Punjaub. Momin Khan Dehlumee, who continued in the office of Dewan to the Suba, advised his master to make his peace with the Emperor, and in consequence he discharged his extra troops.

Kunthajee and Pillajee, taking advantage of this circumstance, took the cities of Baroda and Surat. Kunthajee advanced even to the north of the Myhee, where he levied contributions, and left Agents for the collection of the Chouth; he then retired to the Deccan; but Pillajee remained a careful spectator of events in Guzerat. Moobaruz-ool-Moolk, in consequence of the ravages of the Deccanees, being unable to realize the usual revenues of the province, recruited his treasury as much as possible by extortions, till many people fled from his oppressions.

In A. H. 1139 (A. D. 1726) Momin Khan Dehlumee died. His tombstone is still to be seen in Cambay, near the residence of the present Nuwab. After his death, Aluvurdee Khan was employed in the office of Dewan for a few months, but Momin Khan's brother, Abdool Ghance Khan Dehlumee, was finally selected for that office. At this time Meerza Jaffer Nizam-ood-Dowla became dissatisfied with the conduct of Moobaruz-ool-Moolk, and, leaving Guzerat, repaired to the Court at Delhi.

In A. H. 1143 (A. D. 1730) Moobaruz-ool-Moolk was removed from the Government of Guzerat, to make room for Ubhi Sing, Raja of Jodhpoor. Meerza Jaffer Nizam-ood-Dowla was at the same time appointed "Paymaster to the Troops, Reporter on the State of Guzerat, and Chief of Cambay." Meerza Jaffer, with two other noblemen, had the address to negotiate the peaceable entrance of Ubhi Sing, and to obtain by treaty the payment of a lakh of rupees by Moobaruz-ool-Moolk, for having erected the banners of opposition. Jugdeo and Fida-ood-deen Khan Nizam-i-Sanee were appointed the Kotwals of Ahmedabad; the latter was the relation of Meerza Jaffer, and one history calls him his brother.

Bajee Rao, who had been summoned into Guzerat by Moobaruz-ool-Moolk, hearing that Ubhi Sing had peaceably assumed charge of his Government,

halted on the south bank of the Myhee. Ubhi Sing deputed trusty persons to settle with him about the Chouth, and other matters, but Bajee Rao advancing to Ahmedabad, these affairs were personally arranged, and it was determined that both their armies should march against Pillajee, who had established himself in independence in Baroda. While they were engaged in the siege of that place, news arrived that Asoph Jah had entered the dominions of the Peshwa. Bajee Rao immediately marched with all expedition to the Deccan, and Ubhi Sing retreated to Ahmedabad, leaving Pillajee the ruler of Baroda.

The Chouth which Kunthajee had settled to be paid to the Peshwa was this year exacted by Pillajee for himself. Pillajee crossed the Myhee, and with his army encamped at Pitlaud. Ubhi Sing came out of Ahmedabad to punish his presumption, and sent a party of Marwarees to treat openly about an accommodation, but with private instructions to murder Pillajee if they could. The Marwarees executed their commission with great address, though at the expense of their own lives. Pillajee had moved his camp from Pitlaud to Omrut, where the Marwarees were received by him. Deceived by their fair and flattering speeches, Pillajee permitted them to approach his person, to communicate to him alone a proposal with which they said they were charged from Ubhi Sing. They took advantage of this opportunity, and murdered Pillajee on the spot (A. H. 1143, A. D. 1730-31.) The assassins were instantaneously cut down, and the Muratha army fled with Pillajee's body to Saolee, where they performed his funeral obsequies.

Ubhi Sing pursued the flying Murathas to Baroda, whence he drove them, and obliged them to take refuge in Dubhoi. Here they sustained a siege, which Ubhi Sing was necessitated to raise, for want of provisions. Ubhi Sing returned by the route of Pitlaud, which place being farmed by Meerza Jaffer Nizam-ood-Dowla, he evinced considerable displeasure at their marching through his district, as the consequence would be a defalcation in the revenues. Ubhi Sing, to punish him, took Pitlaud from him, and gave it in farm to another person.

Omanbaee, the wife of Kundeh Rao's minister, who had sent Kunthajee and Pillajee into Guzerat, on hearing of Pillajee's murder, collected an army of fifteen or twenty thousand horsemen, and with Kunthajee, and Damajee, the son of Pillajee, entered Guzerat, and fixed her camp at Fyzabad (now Shahwaree), a village three koss from Ahmedabad. Ubhi Sing made great preparations to repel this enemy, and, amongst others who came to his aid, was Meerza Jaffer Nizam-ood-Dowla. Battles and skirmishes took place every day, sometimes on the banks of the Saburmutee, and sometimes in the streets of the Pooras. At length, Ubhi Sing's batteries being nearly destroyed, and his garrison much harassed and distressed, he sent Juwan Murd Khan Babee and Ubhi Kurn Putavut to negotiate a peace. This was brought about by an agreement that stipulated the payment of three lakhs of rupees per annum, besides the Chouth formerly agreed for. Omanbaee then moved to

Baroda, where she fixed Damajee Gaekwar as her agent in collecting the Chouth. Damajee shortly after made himself master of Baroda by an intrigue, and it has remained in the hands of his descendants ever since.

After this, Ubhi Sing and his brother went to Delhi, and left Rutun Sing Bundaree, his Naib or Deputy, in charge of the province.

In A. H. 1147 (A. D. 1736) Sohrab Khan, who had been once Chief of Surat, was from some private quarrel obliged to fly to Gogo, whence having gone to Schore, he obtained the protection of Bhow Sing, the father of the present Thakore of Bhownuggur, and wrote a letter to Delhi, soliciting the appointment of Agent for Government in collecting the Joonagur tribute. He was immediately appointed to that office, which, lessening the consequence of the Nuwab of Guzerat, Ubhi Sing's Deputy, Rutun Sing, marched to Dhundooka, with a force, where he met and defeated Sohrab Khan's troops, but received in the action two wounds.

Rutun Sing's army, which was chiefly composed of Marwarees, wished, and strenuously advised him, to reduce Meerza Jaffer, who they said was an abettor of the proceedings of Sohrab Khan; but Rutun Sing entertained a better opinion of Meerza Jaffer, and excused himself to his Marwarees on account of his wounds. The Marwarees, however, talked publicly of Meerza Jaffer, and their unreserved opinion of him at last reached his ears, and gave him much uneasiness. Under pretence of sickness he left Rutun Sing's camp, and went for a change of air to Cambay and Pitlaud, which latter place he had again received in farm from Ubhi Sing. Here he adopted measures for warding off the blow which he conceived to be aimed at his life.

It was then the time that the Murathas came on their yearly visit, and Kunthajee commenced his operations in the Pitlaud and Neriad Purgunas. Kunthajee's forces were by no means numerous, which being remarked by Damajee Gaekwar, he fitted out an army, and giving the command of it to Runkoojee, sent him on a plundering expedition across the Myhee. Runkoojee made two or three excursions, and not only got a great booty, but considerable reputation. At length he carried his expeditions further, and plundered the whole of the Pitlaud district. When Meerza Jaffer Nizamood-Dowla heard of this, he marched with a force from Cambay, with the intention of overtaking Runkoo, and of giving him battle. Runkoo, instead of retreating, returned to oppose him. An action took place at Cheetrasir, a village two koss from Pitlaud, in which Meerza Jaffer's troops were fairly put to the route. Even those who surrounded his elephant fled, and did not think themselves in safety till they reached the fort of Cambay. In consequence of the desertion of his troops, Meerza Jaffer must have been surrounded by the enemy, but luckily for him, the Muratha horses were frightened at the sight of an elephant, and gave him the opportunity of escaping. Runkoo's fame increased on gaining this victory.

Meerza Jaffer was still uneasy respecting the Marwarees of Ubhi Sing, and

conceived it better to be prepared for than to wait the development of their designs; he therefore negotiated a peace with his conqueror, and strengthened his own forces. The conditions of the peace were, that a fourth or Chouth of the revenues of the Pitlaud Purguna should be paid to Damajee Gaekwar. Kunthajee, the Peshwa's commander, hearing that Runkoo had leagued with Meerza Jaffer, and that his master would be a loser by their treaty, advanced to punish him. Runkoo, apprised of his design, laid an ambush, and fell on Kunthajee during his march, by which means Kunthajee's son was killed, and his army put to flight.

In consequence of Kunthajee's overthrow, Damajee laid claim to the Chouth paid by the Purgunas north of the Myhee to the Peshwa. The villagers, however, resisted the agents sent by Runkoo to collect this money, and a skirmish took place in almost every village. Damajee then crossed the Myhee, and after halting a few days at Dholka, marched and took the fort of Veerumgaum. He then returned to Baroda, and left Runkoo to fight a number of battles with the Marwar troops of the Subadar of the province. Two bloody battles were fought at Dholka, whence the Marwarees pursued Runkoo to Veerumgaum, and laid siege to the fort.

Rutun Sing wrote to Meerza Jaffer Nizam-ood-Dowla to join him, but he, still suspicious of the designs of Rutun Sing's troops, delayed his march from day to day. At length Rutun Sing had nearly finished a mine, when he learnt that Purtab, Damajee's brother, had crossed the Myhee with a large force, and was advancing to Runkoo's assistance. He the same night sent off his heavy baggage, and retreated to Ahmedabad next morning.

Rutun Sing, on his return to Ahmedabad, levied heavy contributions from every individual, and particularly from the Bunias. Having paid his Marwarees out of the money thus collected, he sent a detachment of them, under Shere Khan Babee, to punish Meerza Jaffer for not joining him in the siege of Veerumgaum. Shere Khan, by some unaccountable conduct, stayed a whole month at Kaira, by which time Meerza Jaffer was perfectly ready to repel him, having obtained assistance from Runkoo. Rutun Sing therefore delayed his operations against Meerza Jaffer till a more favourable opportunity.

The Marwar troops were guilty of acts of great oppression, and an account of their tyrannical conduct reached the ears of the Emperor just at the time he had conceived a dislike to Ubhi Sing, who was always at the Court; the consequence was that a new commission, appointing Meerza Jaffer to be Subadar of Guzerat, was privately issued, and transmitted to him without the knowledge of Ubhi Sing.

When Meerza Jaffer received it, he sent a copy of it to Rutun Sing, with a request that he would evacuate Ahmedabad; but supposing, as was the case, that Rutun Sing would oppose him, without waiting for his answer, he appointed Nizam Khan, his son-in-law, Chief of Cambay, and with Fida Khan, his supposed brother, encamped on the bank of the Narainsir Tank, and began to collect troops. Nizam Khan's appointment was afterwards confirmed from Delhi.

Runkoo was on his return to Baroda when he received a summons from Meerza Jaffer to aid him in the capture of Ahmedabad. As a means of securing Runkoo's support, he stipulated by a document in writing the payment of half the revenues of his whole Suba, the Purgunas of Ahmedabad and Cambay excepted, instead of the Chouth or fourth of the revenues, and the Deshmookee of ten per cent. then paid by Rutun Sing. Meerza Jaffer having thus ensured the services of a powerful army, lost no time in strengthening his own force.

In the mean time Rutun Sing sent an express to Ubhi Sing, who was at Delhi, acquainting him of the events which had taken place. The minister Shums-ood-deen pretended surprise on hearing them, and desired Ubhi Sing to preserve his authority by all means in Guzerat; but at the very time he gave this advice to Ubhi Sing, he despatched an express to Meerza Jaffer, desiring him to lose no time in expelling Rutun Sing and the Marwarees from Guzerat.

After an encampment of six weeks on the bank of the Narainsir Tank, Meerza Jaffer marched to Soojeitra, ten koss from Cambay, and twenty from Ahmedabad, where, being joined by Juwan Murd Khan Babee, he proceeded to Kaira. Here Runkoo and his army met him a month after his arrival. They then marched to Ahmedabad, and had fought several desperate engagements, when Damajee joined them, with reinforcements from Baroda. Meerza Jaffer and Damajee interchanged civilities, and were very cordial, till Rutun Sing sent Damajee proposals, that if he would withdraw his army he would give him all that Meerza Jaffer had promised, and over and above, the Chouth of the Ahmedabad and Cambay Purgunas, which Meerza Jaffer had not offered him. Runkoo, however, saved his friend Meerza Jaffer on this occasion; for by acquainting him with what was in agitation, Meerza Jaffer prevented Damajee from retiring, by granting him the same terms as Rutun Sing had offered. Meerza Jaffer, anxious that Cambay should be totally free from the Muratha influence, gave up the whole Purguna of Veerumgaum for the remission of the Chouth of Cambay.

Nine months passed away, during which there was a skirmish of some kind almost every day. At last the troops in the fort, distressed for provisions, sent a message that they would deliver up the fort if Meerza Jaffer would give them their arrears of pay. He promised them a lakh of rupees, giving his friend and relation Fida-ood-deen Khan as a hostage for its faithful payment.

In the year A. H. 1150 (A. D. 1737) Meerza Jaffer became Nuwab of Guzerat, with the title of Nizam-ood-Dowla Momin Khan. The Agents of Damajee were put in possession of six gates of the city of Ahmedabad. When the Emperor heard of Momin Khan's success, he sent him a well tempered sword, a Sirpeh, an elephant, and the title of Bahadoor.

In consequence of Momin Khan Bahadoor keeping more than his share of the revenues of Ahmedabad, Runkoo's fell short, but to make it up, the agents of that Muratha obliged many Mogul inhabitants to pay double taxes. To

remedy these evils, Runkoo made a Treaty with Momin Khan, in the following terms:—

I.—That a fair division should be made of the city and suburb taxes.

(Written by Momin Khan) " By God's grace there will be no deviation."

II.—That the Murathas be allowed to go and come in and out of the city, subject to the same privileges or restraints as the Mahomedans, and that there should not be both a Muratha and Musulman guard over the Jumalpoor and Khan Jehan gates.

(Written by Momin Khan) " My guards shall be withdrawn."

III.—Whereas it was customary for merchants and artificers to come to Murathas as well as to Mahomedans, but a stop having been put to this custom, it is now agreed that they shall not be prohibited in future. Should such men refuse to come on being called by Murathas, it is agreed that a Mahomedan police officer shall oblige them, and that there shall be no delay on the part of the Mahomedan police in this respect.

(Written by Momin Khan) " There shall be no delay, and the merchants and artificers shall go and come as usual."

IV.—The Kotwals of both Governments shall equally arrange about the tolls of the city and cross-roads. In this there shall not be the error of one Dum (a pice). Should an error occur, it must be corrected and accounted for. It is also agreed that an equal number of men of both Governments shall sit in the Punditkhané (a court of justice), and that all Zamins, Moochulkas, or other deeds of bailment, shall be executed in presence of the officers of both Governments, so assembled.

(Written by Momin Khan) " In all upright cases it must be so, and the Punditkhané shall be as above mentioned."

V.—Men of both Governments shall be appointed to preside in the Kucherees of the Exchequer and Court of Justice, who shall decide everything properly; and if any person is to be summoned, both Governments shall send a police officer to call him.

(Written by Momin Khan) " The officers of both Governments shall act in unison."

VI.—Should it so happen that a great part of the Muratha troops are withdrawn for Moolukgeeree expeditions, the Mahomedans shall not take advantage of their absence by entertaining ambitious designs; and should there be any dispute about the affairs of the province, it is not to be made a cause of quarrel with the Muratha Agent in Ahmedabad. For the performance of these articles let Fida-ood-deen Khan, Abdool Hoossein Khan, Mahomed Khan, Sadik Ali Khan, and Zoorawar Khan, stand security.

(Written by Momin Khan) " The security required shall no doubt be given."

This Treaty was only in force for a few months. Momin Khan paid little attention to it; dissensions arose, battles ensued, and Runkoo and he became great enemies. Momin Khan's endeavours to free his Suba from the Mura-

thas were rewarded by the Emperor: he received a mark of great distinction—a golden fish. He was at the same time honoured with the additional title of Dilawur Jung.

Momin Khan, seeing it would be dangerous to provoke Runkoo too far, came to terms with him, and meeting him at Borsud, a fort near Pitlaud, made up all their differences, by a cession to the Gaekwar of the Napar Tupa, of ten villages. Some of these villages belonged to Cambay, and some to Pitlaud, and they yielded altogether a revenue of Rs. 60,000. Soon after this Momin Khan fell sick, and died in Ahmedabad in A. H. 1155 (A. D. 1742).

On the death of Momin Khan, Fida-ood-deen Khan, his supposed brother, and Muftukhur Khan, his legitimate son, were appointed to the charge of affairs in Guzerat; but both aspiring to be appointed Suba separately, they quarrelled, and soon discovered that their contentions would render them worse off than if they had been unanimous. Juwan Murd Khan Babee usurped the authority of Subadar, and, establishing himself in Ahmedabad, turned them out. Muftukhur Khan's interest had prevailed at Court, and he was appointed the Suba just after Juwan Murd Khan had usurped the Subadaree. Muftukhur Khan wrote to Runkoo for assistance, who promised his aid if the expenses of his army were paid. Muftukhur Khan and Fida Khan, again uniting, came to Cambay to collect forces. Nizam Khan, the Governor left in Cambay by Momin Khan, his father-in-law, received Muftukhur Khan, and treated him with respect.

In the mean time Runkoo, who had formerly acquired the whole of the Veerumgaum Purguna, on condition that the Cambay district should pay nothing, conceived this a favourable opportunity for obtaining half the revenues of that Purguna for his master. Consultations were held between Nizam Khan, Muftukhur Khan, and Fida-ood-deen Khan, for counteracting Runkoo's designs, but that Muratha having come with his army to the Narainsir Tank, a mile and a half from Cambay, he soon forced them to yield to his demands, and the Gaekwar Naib entered the city for the collection of half the revenues for Damajee.

After this the arrangements for the capture of Ahmedabad formed the subject of the consultation of Runkoo and his Cambay friends: Runkoo promised his aid the moment he should receive a lakh of rupees. Nizam Khan, exerting his influence and authority in Cambay, collected about Rs. 80,000, which were given to Runkoo, who, when he had secured this sum, left Cambay for his fort of Borsud, near Pitlaud, saying he would there wait the formation of their army, and the payment of the remaining Rs. 20,000.

The Moguls had too much penetration not to observe that Runkoo had taken them in. Vexed at their own stupidity, they quarrelled among themselves, and Nizam Khan and Muftukhur Khan uniting, blamed Fida-ood-deen Khan as the author of their error, for he had been the most zealous in obtaining Runkoo's assistance. Fida-ood-deen Khan, either actually grieved, or pretending to be so, left Cambay, and, with all his family, lived in Dehwan.

Muftukhur Khan, of a cruel and turbulent disposition, employed his idle time in forming plans, and in indulging ambitious views. Nizam Khan, suspecting that he was not very trustworthy, would not allow him to reside within the fort until the approach of the rainy season.

Nizam Khan, who was a descendant of the Nizam-i-Sanee family, on his first arrival in Guzerat was in very reduced circumstances ; but from marrying the daughter of Meerza Jaffer Momin Khan, he was employed by that nobleman during the time of his being Chief of Cambay, and on Momin Khan's appointment to the Subadaree he was left in charge of Cambay, and was afterwards confirmed in that appointment by the Court of Delhi. Nizam Khan indulged himself in licentious amours, the consequence, it is said, of the hauteur of his wife Jehan Khanum, who would not condescend to grant him the privileges of a husband.

One day, as Nizam Khan was going into his bath, he met the wife of one of his door-keepers, with whose charms he was immediately struck. The result of his intercourse with this woman was the birth of a son in Kuneesa, a village three koss from Cambay. This son was called Meeah Munnoo, but when Jehan Khanum Begum understood who his father was she sent for the child, and, giving it the name of Mahomed Kalee, saw that it was well taken care of.

When Mahomed Kalee was one year old, and Nizam Khan had been Chief of Cambay ten years, in the year A. H. 1160 (A. D. 1747), Muftukhur Khan, by bribing a Hindoo physician, who administered medicines to Nizam Khan during an illness, had poison mixed in one of his potions, which had the desired effect of killing him.

Nizam Khan was the first ruler of Cambay who laid a tax on the grain brought into the city. Every cart-load was charged four annas, or a quarter of a rupee, but the Koonbees for some time evaded the weight of this tax by putting sixty, instead of, as formerly, thirty-two maunds of grain into one cart. When Nizam Khan discovered this, he established a tax on the quantity of grain, at the rate of one tukka or three pice for every five maunds, and this tax is still gathered. The whole of the revenues received by Nizam Khan, exclusive of what was paid to the Gaekwar, amounted to four lakhs of rupees, three and a half lakhs of which were disbursed for the expenses of the Government and his own family, and the rest was deposited in the treasury.

On the death of his brother-in-law, Muftukhur Khan assumed the direction of affairs in Cambay. He conceived a dislike to his sister Khanum Begum, the widow of Nizam Khan, and poisoned her. In A. H. 1159 (A. D. 1746), the Emperor of Delhi confirmed him in the Chiefship of Cambay, and entitled him Noor-ood-deen Mahomed Khan Momin Khan Bahadoor, with the dignity of an Ameer of six thousand.

In the mean time, Damajee Rao Gaekwar encamped with an army at Bussoo, a village of Cambay, seventeen koss from Cambay. His brother Kundeh Rao, with whom he had had a quarrel, was here reconciled to him,

and Damajee, as a proof of his sincerity, gave Kundeh Rao the Neriad Purguna, and Runkoo's fort of Borsud. In consequence of Borsud having been given up, Runkoo built for himself, with Damajee's permission, the fort of Omrut, which place from that day has been considered distinct from the Purguna to which it then belonged.

Runkoo, however, was much displeased at his fort of Borsud having been taken from him, and, connecting himself with Shere Khan Babee, and Rai Sing, the Raja of Edur, he advanced to take it from Kundeh Rao's garrison. He effected his purpose, and Kundeh Rao, aided by Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan, advanced to retake it. Runkoo, in a sally one day, fell into the enemy's hand, and the garrison surrendered.

Fida-ood-deen Khan, who had left Dehwan, and taken up his residence in Omrut, on learning Runkoo's misfortune, removed his family to Attersoomba, a town belonging to Jeeta Zumindar.

In the year A. D. 1750 Damajee Gaekwar, on pretence of supporting the party of the widow of the Sahoo Raja, against the Peshwa Balajee Bajee Rao, advanced into Khandesh with a considerable army, where he defeated a force of the Peshwa's, and rapidly advanced into the Deccan. The Peshwa, withdrawing his forces from the war then carried on in the Nizam's country, marched to oppose Damajee, but finding his efforts were of no avail, he entered into terms with him, that he might lull him into an idea of security. This act of treachery gained him the possession of Damajee's person, who was confined upwards of two years in the fortress of Logur, during which time his adherents preserved for him his possessions in Guzerat.

In A. D. 1751 Juwan Murd Khan Babee, who had usurped the Subadaree of Guzerat, received a message from the Peshwa, requesting him to turn out the Agents of the Gaekwar, and to pay them no longer the Chouth, of which he said the Gaekwar had unjustly taken possession, to his prejudice. It was also intimated that Witul Sookdeo would march into Guzerat with an army, to give effect to Juwan Murd's exertions. But in consequence of the Peshwa being obliged to collect all his forces to oppose the views of Salabat Jung, Witul Sookdeo never advanced to Guzerat; and a negotiation was set on foot between the Peshwa and Damajee, then his prisoner, respecting a partition of the Chouth. Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan, who was at continual variance with the Gaekwar Agent in Cambay, having heard of the arrangement that was in agitation, sent Birjlal, his Secretary, to Poona, to entreat the Peshwa to demand Cambay as one of the places which the partition treaty should transfer to him. The wishes of Noor-ood-deen were gratified, and the Peshwa's Vukeel relieved that of the Gaekwar in Cambay.

On the final adjustment of the treaty which assigned to the Gaekwar and Peshwa an equal division of the revenues derivable from the Chouth of the Suba of Guzerat, Rugoonath Rao, the brother of Balajee Rao, the Peshwa, and Damajee Gaekwar (now acknowledged by the Peshwa Sovereign of Guzerat, with the title of Sena Khas Khel), appeared at the head of their armies, to

carry the articles of agreement into effect; but from several causes Rugoonath Rao was recalled from Surat, at which place he had arrived.

In the year A. H. 1166 (A. D. 1752), Punroo Pundit crossed the Myhee, with an army of the Peshwa. He advanced to Cambay, where Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan prepared to resist his demands, by increasing his troops, and repairing the walls of the fort. Punroo Pundit, however, by means of some able servants, opened his eyes to the futility of resistance, and brought about an interview. The end of this visit was an agreement, by which Momin Khan made Punroo an involuntary present, on parting, of four very nice guns, which, with their appendages and people, Punroo carried to Ahmedabad, where he employed them against Juwan Murd Khan Babee, but without gaining his object in doing so.

As the Peshwa was anxious to have his authority more firmly established in Guzerat, he sent his brother Rugoonath Rao with a large army, to reduce Ahmedabad. Rugoonath Rao, after a severe combat, expelled Juwan Murd Khan Babee, allowing him to hold the government of the Puttun, Beesanugur, Burnugur, Kheraloo, Beejapoor, and Thurad Purgunas, besides the towns of Radhunpoor, Moonjpoor, Sumee, &c. given to him in Jageer. For the towns held in Jageer, Juwan Murd's brother was to keep up two hundred horsemen, to be ready at the call of the Peshwa's Government.

Shreeput Rao was left in charge of Ahmedabad, and the army marched to Limree, where they exacted a present of Rs. 40,000 from Hurbumjee, the Zumindar of that place, who promised a similar sum yearly. Shreeput Rao repaired to Terrapoor, a village eighteen miles from Cambay, where he negotiated the payment by Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan of Rs. 10,000 on account of Ghas Dana.

The rains of A. H. 1166 (A. D. 1752) were so heavy that many parts of the fort of Cambay fell down. Shreeput Rao, hearing of this, thought it a favourable opportunity for establishing the Peshwa's authority more firmly in that place; and before the rains were over, that there might be no time to rebuild the broken walls, he prepared a few troops, and sent a man to examine the state of the fort and garrison. To prevent Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan from entertaining any suspicion of his design, he made an elegant carriage, on a curious construction, which he fitted up with gold and silver hangings, and gave out that it was intended to be presented to Rugoonath Rao, and that he proposed to escort it with a considerable number of men through Guzerat. He accordingly left Ahmedabad with a body of horsemen and infantry, and a party of five hundred Mawaleis (the most daring of the Muratha tribes), and arrived in two or three days at Pitlaud, where he made a halt, in order to prepare for the attack on Cambay. Birjlal, the Secretary of Momin Khan, was just then returning from Poona, and, as in duty bound, went to pay his compliments to Shreeput Rao. Birjlal, from several circumstances, became suspicious of that Muratha's designs, and writing to his master to be on his guard, Momin Khan made great preparations.

Shreeput Rao took advantage of a dark night, and, with one guide, marched silently from Pitlaud; but the man forgetting the road, they did not arrive at Cambay till about forty minutes before break of day, and on advancing to the place where they expected to find a breach, their progress was stopped by a new and strong wall. Observing that there was no guard on the eastern gate of the fort, the Mawaleis were sent with scaling ladders, but, on ascending the wall, were repulsed by some men whom they had not observed. Shreeput Rao exhorted his men to make another effort, but by the time they were induced to do so, Momin Khan was at the spot with reinforcements, and beat them back, with considerable loss on their part. The besiegers then withdrew, and rested themselves from the fatigues of the night and morning. The next day commenced with an attack, and after fighting all day, without gaining any advantage, Shreeput Rao intimated to Momin Khan, in the evening, that he had received orders from Rugoonath Rao to take Cambay, and to make a provision for him by giving him some other place. Momin Khan replied that he would not deliver up the fort, in consequence of which they fought for a week.

Shreeput Rao, conceiving it very improbable that the fort would soon be surrendered or taken, sent Mohsuls on every village belonging to Cambay, and seized almost the whole of the revenues for that year. Momin Khan then sent deputies to negotiate an accommodation, which was effected, by a payment of Rs. 7,000 extra to Shreeput Rao, on account of Ghas Dana, and the re-delivery of the villages on which Mohsuls had been sent to Momin Khan.

Akbar, Emperor of Delhi, had made two Pooras or suburbs to Cambay, and when Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan was appointed Chief of Cambay, there were no less than eleven, inhabited by respectable men and artificers. These Pooras were almost entirely deserted from the oppressive acts of Noor-ood-deen, but chiefly from the violence and rapacity of Shreeput Rao's army. Cambay has never recovered this blow, but has gone into gradual decay ever since. At present there is not a house where these suburbs formerly were, excepting a small portion of the Jehanjea Poora, which Noor-ood-deen surrounded with a wall. The revenues of the Purguna this year collected by Momin Khan's Agents amounted to Rs. 60,000, the rest had been collected by Shreeput Rao; but of this Rs. 60,000, Rs. 30,000 was paid to the Peshwa's Agent as his master's share, and the other Rs. 30,000 was also paid him, on condition that no Muratha should in future collect the revenues in the Purguna.

The conduct of Shreeput Rao rendered Noor-ood-deen suspicious of the Murathas, and he increased the establishment of his troops. His time was spent in squabbling with the Muratha Agents, and in extorting money from the inhabitants of his city, to defray the expenses of his extra troops. He obtained large sums of money, but lost many wealthy and peaceable subjects, for numbers fled from his oppression.

In the mean time his Secretary, Birjlal, was deputed to Poona, to complain of the faithless conduct of Shreeput Rao; but the Peshwa having inquired into the concerns of Cambay, and understanding from Bhugwunt Rao, a man who

had resided there as his agent, that the fort would be easily reduced, he sent Bhugwunt Rao to Guzerat, with orders to assemble a force and to take it. Birjlal, hearing of this, apprised Noor-ood-deen of his danger.

Bhugwunt Rao proceeded direct to Cambay without any troops, and was treated with the greatest respect by Noor-ood-deen. An uninhabited house in one of the suburbs was assigned for his residence, where Noor-ood-deen visited him, and gave him valuable presents. Bhugwunt Rao, blinded by these attentions, conceived himself in perfect security, and was even dilatory in assembling men to carry his orders into execution. He wrote for a Jemadar named Selim, and his two hundred Arabs, who were in Ahmedabad, and desired they would halt within a few koss of Cambay. This letter was seized by Momin Khan's guards on the road, and Noor-ood-deen holding a consultation on its contents, it was resolved to seize Bhugwunt Rao next morning. He set out very early, attended by a strong suite of faithful adherents, and surrounding the house of Bhugwunt Rao while he was yet asleep, made him and Gungadhur Pundit (a man of great abilities, and a great enemy to Noor-ood-deen) prisoners, carried them into the fort, and put them in close confinement in his own dwelling.

Setting the power of the Murathas at defiance, he then strengthened his fortifications, increased his garrison, and appropriated to his own use the Peshwa's share of the revenues. When the Peshwa heard of these acts, he sent orders to the Foujdar of Veerumgaum, to Gunesh Appajee of Jumbooseer, and to the Foujdars of Dubla and Dhundooka, to unite their forces, and obtain the freedom of Bhugwunt Rao. An army of twelve thousand men soon appeared before Cambay, which they battered with their artillery for three months, without gaining any advantage. Men of weight and of a peaceable disposition induced Momin Khan to sue for an accommodation, but the Murathas would listen to no terms, having sent to Shreeput Rao for reinforcements. When they arrived, the Murathas made as little progress as before they were sent for, and were then glad to negotiate a peace, by means of two Shroffs of Jumbooseer and Pitlaud. The articles of agreement were that Bhugwunt Rao should be liberated on proper security, and the Peshwa receive his usual share of the Cambay revenues. Sunkrajee, a Muratha of consequence, was Bhugwunt Rao's security, but he soon left Guzerat, and was out of the reach of Noor-ood-deen.

Bhugwunt Rao, fearing nothing for his friend, who had been his bail, and ashamed of having been caught in his own trap, was resolved on revenge, and began to entertain Arabs and Puthans. In A. H. 1167 (A. D. 1753) Sudasheo Damodhur succeeded Shreeput Rao as Sirsuba of Guzerat, the latter being summoned to the Deccan for more important employment. Bhugwunt Rao was readily assisted by the new Sirsuba, and laid siege to Cambay for two months, collecting money in the interim throughout the Purguna. Sudasheo Damodhur was almost immediately succeeded by Ragoo Pundit as Sirsuba. Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan at last came to terms with Bhugwunt Rao: he

promised to pay up the whole of the Peshwa's share of the revenues and taxes, which he had seized during the late dissension, and gave a sum of Rs. 10,000 for everything extra claimed by the Murathas. As Noor-ood-deen had no ready money, Tukojee Damodhur, a Muratha Sirdar, became his security, and thus ended Bhugwunt Rao's revenge, and his stay in Guzerat.

Noor-ood-deen was much pressed by Tukojee for the payment of the Rs. 10,000. Wishing to evade it, he sent an intelligent man to notice the condition of the fort and garrison of Ahmedabad, under the pretence of bearing a message to Tukojee, that he would pay off his debt to him in a few days. Having gained by this means the information he desired, he resolved on trying the temper of the Murathas, and the mettle of his own troops, who were calling aloud for pay, by making an incursion into one of the Peshwa's districts. He accordingly crossed the Saburmutee river, and plundered the whole country as far as Puchum, in the Dhundooka Purguna, carrying off men, women, and cattle, which he distributed among his troops in lieu of pay. He was not surprised, for he in some measure expected that the Murathas, from inability, would not call him to account for this act. Gaining confidence by his success and its profitable issue, he marched to take Gogo, then subject to the Peshwa. He succeeded in reducing this place, and left Ibrahim Khan with one hundred men to preserve it. He exacted money from every town and village through which he passed on his return.

On arriving at Cambay, he fitted out a force under the command of Meerza Mahomed Zeman, the son of Fida-ood-deen Khan, and sent it on a predatory expedition to Kattywar, with instructions to do all possible mischief. The Zumindars of Kattywar were glad to compound by considerable Nuzuranas, in order to save their districts from ruin. This force remained two months in the field, and collected a large booty, which was divided among the troops.

On the return of this force, Noor-ood-deen marched to the Pitlaud districts, and received the submission of the Zumindars, who agreed to pay him a fourth of their produce in money, if he would not plunder their villages. He plundered as far as Anund Mogree, and retured victorious and rich to Cambay.

He made a second expedition with less success. He marched against Borsud, already frequently mentioned, near to Pitlaud, and battered the walls for some days, without making any impression. He then resolved to attempt the place by escalade, and with this design he had the greatest portion of his troops under arms the whole of the night, without once trying to get in, on account of the alertness which everywhere prevailed in the garrison. About 11 o'clock in the forenoon, while many of his troops were asleep, Syajee Gaekwar, who had marched from Baroda the night before, surprised his camp; the stragglers on its outside immediately fled, and Syajee Gaekwar, conceiving the whole might be panic-struck by a bold and immediate attack, rushed into the encampment. A bloody battle ensued, and man fought with man. Noor-ood-deen, awakened by the noise of arms, ran with his personal guard to the place

where he was told the pressure of the Murathas was greatest. He slew many with his own hand, and exerted himself so manfully that the Murathas gave way. Syajee meeting with greater resistance than he at first imagined, and his troops being fatigued with their long march, ordered a retreat. Noor-ood-deen, conceiving he had done enough not to get beat, retreated in good order to Cambay.

Shortly after this event, very heavy rain fell, and destroyed many buildings, and great part of the fort of Ahmedabad. When Noor-ood-deen learned this, he determined on attempting the capture of that place; but his designs were spread abroad by his imprudent counsellors, and reaching the knowledge of Ragoo Pundit, the Sirsuba, that commander made preparations against the meditated attack. He sent three men in disguise as spies to Ahmedabad. Meer Shums-ood-deen was seized and turned out by Ragoo Pundit, but Lall Khan and Shumbooram escaped unnoticed. The former murdered Ragoo Pundit, and, flying to Cambay, told Noor-ood-deen that there was now no time to be lost in carrying his plans into effect.

Noor-ood-deen immediately despatched a force under Mahomed Zeman Khan, son of Fida-ood-deen Khan, and Birjlal, his Secretary, to Ahmedabad; but in consequence of their having gone by Dholka, they could not re-cross the Saburmutee for some time, that river having been swelled by heavy rains. Lall Khan and Shumbooram were in the mean time very active in assembling Kolees and other people to aid the expedition.

Everything being in readiness, Aga Rashid Beg, the brother-in-law of Noor-ood-deen's wife, marched from Cambay with five hundred men, well armed and equipped, on the 12th of Mohurum A. H. 1170 (A. D. 1756). They refreshed themselves at Kaira, and were opposed by a few Muratha troops at Noorwalla, whom they defeated, in consequence of Shumbooram joining during the engagement with a great body of Kolees and other irregulars, who were as little expected by the Murathas as they were by Aga Rashid Beg. Shumbooram, who had been appointed senior in command to Aga Rashid Beg, proved himself an artful officer. Conceiving that the Murathas would have the greatest part of their troops posted at the breaches made by the rains, he determined on applying his scaling ladders to one of the strongest and highest curtains of the fort, which he found, as he expected, totally defenceless. On the 21st of Mohurum the attack was carried into execution, and Ahmedabad fell to Noor-ood-deen's commander. The Dutch, who had a factory in the fort, fired on the besiegers, but Shumbooram intimating to them that he had no intentions of hostility against them, they ceased firing. Noor-ood-deen received intelligence of the success of his arms about midnight, and that instant proceeded to Ahmedabad, leaving Meerza Mahomed Zeman, Shah Zadee, of Persia (who had formerly received a village of Cambay in Inam, which his descendants now enjoy), as his Deputy in charge of Cambay. He arrived in Ahmedabad on the 22nd evening of the Mohurum.

He sent Birjlal, his Secretary, to Cambay, to act in that capacity to Mahomed

Zeman, and appointed Shumbooram his Dewan in Ahmedabad. His first acts in the city were to extort money, and to commit the most unprincipled outrages and cruelties. The tyranny of Noor-ood-deen in Ahmedabad is still spoken of in Guzerat, and forms a standard for the measure of oppression.

The Murathas, aided by Juwan Murd Khan Babee, did all they could to annoy Momin Khan, but this all amounted to the plunder of the Cambay Purgunas, whence they were driven by Aga Rashid Beg with twelve hundred men.

The news of these events filled Balajee Rao, the Peshwa, with rage: he instantly despatched Sudasheo Ramchunder, his most intimate friend, with a large force to Guzerat, that, joining with Damajee Gaekwar, he might retake Ahmedabad. When Noor-ood-deen heard of Ramchunder's arrival on the confines of Guzerat, he blocked up the gates of Ahmedabad with brick and chunam, and awaited in confidence the storm which threatened to burst on his head. Ramchunder, before he advanced, addressed him by letter, and halted till the receipt of a reply. He wrote to him "that it was of no avail to oppose the Peshwa, whose hand had stretched over all Hindoostan, and who, having taken on himself the burden of the affairs of Hind, no one dared to provoke to enmity; that it would be fitting he should lay down his arms, and, conceiving that what he had done never had been done, lift up the bed of hostility and retire to Cambay, his former place of abode."

Noor-ood-deen, considering ten thousand well equipped horsemen and infantry, besides Kolees and other irregular troops, were sufficient to keep the Murathas at bay, wrote a cavalier answer to Ramchunder's letter, which induced that commander to march to Ahmedabad without delay. The besiegers' batteries opened on the 15th of Rubee-ool-Sanee A. H. 1170 (A. D. 1756), and the Muratha influence was established in a very short time throughout the whole country. Nothing remained but the city of Ahmedabad. On hearing this, the cruelty and rapacity of Noor-ood-deen had no bounds: he plundered the inhabitants of Ahmedabad, and flogged those who would not discover their little treasures. Poverty and distress pervaded every quarter of the city, and the splendour of Ahmedabad was extinguished by his tyranny. It never recovered, and it is now very improbable that it ever will recover the blow which it received from this tyrant. Shumbooram proved himself a second Noor-ood-deen, and in many instances surpassed him in cruelty. The Guzeratees to this day vouch for the authenticity of their words or deeds by saying they are ready to swear that they are as true as that Shumbooram will be sent to Nirg (the Hindoo hell) on the Day of Judgment.

The siege of Ahmedabad had lasted nine months, till the end of Zehige A. H. 1171 (A. D. 1757), without the smallest advantage having been gained by the besiegers. At this time Rugoonath Rao, the Peshwa's brother, was at Delhi, superintending the affairs of the Emperor. Momin Khan, who was not exactly aware of the influence of Rugoonath Rao in the councils of the Emperor, sent hoondees for Rs. 20,000, which he forced from the Ahmedabad

Shroffs, and solicited the appointment of Subadar of Guzerat from the Court; but, as might be expected, he never got an answer.

The siege continued three months longer, when Noor-ood-deen was obliged to surrender the fort, from want of provisions and the clamours of his troops. He was permitted to retire to Cambay, after withdrawing his Thana from Gogo, and *admitting the Peshwa's Agent to receive, as formerly, half of the revenues of Cambay.* The Murathas obliged him to give up his miscreant General, Shumbooram, who was put to death for his cruelties. Noor-ood-deen was escorted to Cambay by a Muratha force, and received Rs. 10,000 of Rs. 70,000 which the Peshwa's commander had agreed to give him to enable him to pay his troops. Damajee Gaekwar was security for the payment of the balance. The Muratha re-occupations were made permanent by the entry of Sudasheo Ramchunder and Damajee into Ahmedabad, on the 18th of Jumadee-ool-Sanee A. H. 1171 (A. D. 1757).

Noor-ood-deen's first act on entering Cambay was to mulct the wealthy inhabitants. Birjlal, again his Chief Minister, was sent to Ahmedabad, and shortly after returned, bearing the result of his negotiations with Damajee. Noor-ood-deen, conceiving he had acted treacherously, instantly put him to death, and a man of the name of Goolab Rae, of as diabolical a nature as Noor-ood-deen, succeeded to his employment.

Noor-ood-deen's cruelties increased every day, and respectable men, such as Meer Nizam-ood-deen, Zahid Ali, Mahomed Husham, and Mahomed Ruja, left Cambay. The last two entered into a scheme for ruining Noor-ood-deen, which was seconded by Sudasheo Ramchunder, the Peshwa's Sirsuba ; but he eluded their efforts by his cunning.

The armies of Damajee and Sudasheo Ramchunder continued at this time marching about in Guzerat, and Momin Khan, fearful of their designs, from their being almost without employment, wrote a letter to the Peshwa, stating that he would pay him his respects at Poona, provided he would order the Murathas in Guzerat not to molest Cambay during his absence. The Peshwa sent the requisite orders, but Sudasheo threatened Cambay with destruction if he presumed to leave it without paying up Rs. 20,000, arrears of Cambay revenue due to the Peshwa. Noor-ood-deen made some futile excuse, which induced Sudasheo to make a movement towards Cambay, and which, as he expected, had the desired effect of making him pay the claim.

Noor-ood-deen, in consequence of the delay in his departure, and of its cause, wrote a number of falsehoods, mixed with some real occurrences, in a letter to the Peshwa, who, deceived by his representations, sent an order to Sudasheo to pay back the Rs. 20,000, and with this order sent guides and Kosids, under charge of a respectable Musulman, to conduct Noor-ood-deen to Poona. The order to Sudasheo was immediately transmitted to him by Noor-ood-deen. Sudasheo, who was at Balasinor, replied that as he had not taken a farthing more than his master's due, he would not send him back the Rs. 20,000. This occurrence detained Noor-ood-deen six months longer,

and at the end of that time Sudasheo repaired to Poona; but as Noor-ood-deen did not wish to be confronted with him, he did not leave Cambay for some time longer. He disembarked at Bombay, and arrived at Poona on the 2nd Sufur A. H. 1173 (A. D. 1759), where the Peshwa received him with attention, and sent respectable men to welcome his arrival. The Peshwa's cousin, Sudasheo Rao, met him at the gate of the fort, and conducted him before Balajee Rao, who, embracing him, seated him beside himself, and inquired into his concerns.

A few days after Noor-ood-deen's arrival, the Peshwa, accompanied by his son Wishwas Rao, his brother Shumshere Bahadoor, and his cousin Sudasheo Rao, paid him a visit, and conversed with him on business, and on indifferent subjects, for about three hours. Noor-ood-deen, from his long intercourse with the Murathas, was well aware of the manner in which it was possible to please them. He gave presents of uncommon value to the Peshwa and his relations, and distributed so many turbans among his attendants, that the Deccanees declared he was the most generous, best-hearted fellow they had ever known. This display of liberality, added to Momin Khan's character for bravery, gained him great respect. He remained two months at Poona, and on his departure the Peshwa presented him with an elephant and presents, according to the custom of the Murathas. Whatever Noor-ood-deen's views were in visiting the Peshwa, the existing relations between them continued the same as formerly. He formed a treaty, however, the due performance of the articles of which by Noor-ood-deen was guaranteed by the Governor of Bombay. During his stay in Bombay he wrote a letter to the Court of Directors, which was forwarded by the Governor of Bombay. This letter was couched in terms of friendship, and of inferiority. The Honorable Court replied to it in a most gracious way, and the answer was kept as a record, to be spoken of to every English Resident, or to any Native power with whom Noor-ood-deen had business. The consequence assumed by Noor-ood-deen, on being honoured with such a mark of the consideration of a powerful Government, is only to be equalled by the care with which his successors have preserved it. He travelled overland to Surat, and arrived at Cambay on the 19th Jumadee-ool-Sanee A. H. 1173 (A. D. 1759) Feb. 7. 1760

Gunesh Appajee, who had been for many years the Peshwa's Agent in Jumbooseer and Mukboobadad, was in A. D. 1759 appointed Sirsuba of Guzerat. In 1760 he attacked the fort of Ometa, one of the original eighty-four dependencies of Cambay, and obliged the Rajpoot Raja to pay him Rs. 11,000. From Ometa, Gunesh Appajee proceeded to Dewan, and thence to Cambay, where he had an interview with Noor-ood-deen, who cultivated a friendly intercourse, which ended very much to Noor-ood-deen's advantage. It was determined that the Peshwa's Agent in Cambay should be withdrawn, and that a yearly sum of Rs. 84,000 should be paid in lieu of every claim by the Murathas.

It was on the 7th January 1761 that the Muratha armies under Sudasheo

Rao Bhow, and Wishwas Rao, the son of Balajee, were defeated by the Emperor's troops at Paniput. On this occasion Sooja-ood-Dowla wrote, amongst others, to Noor-ood-deen, to assemble troops and drive the Murathas from the the province of Guzerat. Noor-ood-deen in a very short time collected five thousand infantry and one thousand horse, and was joined by Neknam, Chief of Surat. When Neknam's troops were rested from their march, they were ordered to plunder the district of Dhundooka, that they might collect money to pay the expenses of the armament.

Gunesh Appajee, who strictly observed the conduct of Momin Khan, advanced with a force within seven koss of Cambay, whence he sent a messenger to demand of Noor-ood-deen the reason of his entertaining troops, and making warlike preparations. Noor-ood-deen desired that a Muratha called Bhugwan might be sent to him, and that he would explain his reasons to him. Bhugwan repaired to the neighbourhood of the fort, where he was met by Noor-ood-deen, who showed him the order he had received from the Imperial Court, and told him that his great respect for Gunesh Appajee induced him to advise him in the most strenuous manner to escape, while it was yet time, with his family and valuables, and permit him to establish himself in Ahmedabad. He then told him that an imperial army was no doubt by this time in Malwa, and that if Gunesh Appajee did not fly before its arrival, even his influence would in all probability not be able to prevent its murdering every Muratha who came in its way.

The instant Appajee heard the message of Noor-ood-deen, he prepared to commence hostilities. His first act was to plunder the whole of the Cambay district. On the 16th of Ramzan, news arrived that Ahmed Shah had gone off to Lahore; that Sooja-ood-Dowla had returned to Lucknow, and that the Murathas were again in force in Hindoostan. Appajee, on learning these welcome tidings, carried on his schemes against Cambay with vigour, though with little success. He advanced to within four koss of Cambay, where Noor-ood-deen tried to force him to an engagement, but without effect. He then went to Ahmedabad, whence he sent reinforcements to the camp at Cambay.

In the mean time, Damajee Gaekwar entered Baroda on the 1st of Shuwal A. H. 1174 (A. D. 1760), having returned from the siege of Gwalior, which fell to the arms of Mulhar Holkar a few months before. He sent his second son, Govind Rao, with a force to aid Appajee's troops in reducing Noor-ood-deen, but before they could arrive Noor-ood-deen had forced an engagement, in which he was completely defeated. The Deccanees laid waste his whole Purguna, and twice levied contributions from the village of Terrapoor, and then set fire to it.

Noor-ood-deen, greatly distressed by these events, was obliged to sue for an accommodation, which was granted to him, on terms that added to his grief. He was forced to engage to pay the Peshwa half his revenues, as formerly, to admit a Muratha Agent to see that he did so faithfully, and to make

good the difference between Rs. 84,000 and half the revenues, from the time Gunesh Appajee had included the whole Muratha claims in that amount. He discharged his troops, after paying them by the most tyrannical extortions he had yet made in Cambay.

In the end of this year he threw his accomplice in oppression, Goolab Rae, into confinement, on a charge of having appropriated Rs. 4,000 of some contributions to his own use. Aga Rashid Beg, the husband of his wife's natural sister, was then promoted to the office of Goolab Rae.

Balajee Rao, who had advanced as far as Oojein to support his armies in Hindoostan, there heard of the defeat they had suffered, and of the death of his beloved son Wishwas Rao. His grief knew no bounds, and he was carried back to Poona in a state of insanity, where he soon after expired, on the 19th of Zilkad A. H. 1174 (A. D. 1760). In consequence of his death, distraction took place in the affairs of the Murathas, and the province of Guzerat became the seat of the operations of a lawless banditti of Katees and Kolees, whose depredations ruined the country for many years.

Noor-ood-deen, from the year A. H. 1174 (A. D. 1760) till A. H. 1180 (A. D. 1766), kept on good terms with the Murathas; but during that time he half depopulated the city of Cambay by his enormities and oppressions. In the year A. D. 1766, being at a loss for objects on whom he might satiate his avarice and cruelty, his worthy Minister, Aga Rashid Beg, devised a plan for obtaining the hidden treasures of the Brahmins. These men were ordered to assemble in one place, and to read prayers and perform incantations for the health and prosperity of the tyrant. They had done this for six days, each receiving on his departure a quarter of a rupee per day for victuals. On the seventh day, the enclosed court in which they were assembled was surrounded by armed men, and every Brahmin was seized and tortured, by having red-hot nails thrust into the palms of his hands and the tips of his fingers, till he discovered his hidden treasures; those who had none were not believed, and suffered great injury. He collected in two days Rs. 2,00,000. Many learned Brahmins, who had till this time resided in Cambay, fled from the holy Kooarka Kheshiter,* the instant they were liberated by the tyrants who had ruined their fortunes and polluted their bodies.

Aga Rashid Beg's fate can hardly be lamented, after taking so active a part in so diabolical a transaction. Noor-ood-deen had fallen in love with Kootubee Khanum, Aga Rashid's wife, and the natural sister of his own. To induce

* In ancient times the place where Cambay is now situated was called Kooarka Kheshiter, and was inhabited by Brahmins, who lived in the purity enjoined them by their faith. It derived its name "Kooarka" from a temple dedicated to the Devi under that appellation. "Kheshiter" signifies a pure place. The extent of the ground called Kooarka Kheshiter was eight miles round the Pagoda, in the vicinity of which were the habitations of about ten thousand men, employed in trade on a very small scale. (See Kooarka Kund Grunt.)

The English factory is built on the spot where the Devi's temple formerly stood, but a part of it is still to be seen, minutely carved, and of a quadrangular form, jutting out from the wall surrounding the south side of the factory.

the husband to be a contented spectator of his wife's frailty and his own criminal lust, he promoted him to be his Secretary; but having discovered that he had purloined some of the money forced from the Brahmins, he threw him into prison, whence he was released after a month's confinement, but only to live in disgrace. Ambha Ram, a writer, was blown from a gun for having faithfully served Aga Rashid. After two years' residence in Cambay, Aga Rashid in 1768 had embarked with his wife and family on board a boat bound to Surat, when Noor-ood-deen sent messengers the night before the boat was to sail, to summon Aga Rashid before him. As he was coming along on foot, the link-boy who conducted the party extinguished his light, and the messengers murdered Aga Rashid on the spot. His family arrived in safety at Surat.

In the year 1766 Noor-ood-deen, to protect his Purguna from the ravages of the Katees, agreed to pay them a yearly sum of Rs. 4,000, and to allow them to pass unnoticed through his district, on condition that they would not plunder his villages.

Damajee Gaekwar, who had gone to Poona in A. D. 1762 to defend the cause of Rugoonath Rao, on returning to Guzerat punished many petty Chiefs who had committed outrages, and raised themselves to independence; nor did the Peshwa prohibit Damajee in his design of rendering them tributary to himself. Damajee, after successfully attacking Rajpeepla in A. D. 1763, and placing a detachment of Arabs and Sindees in Sheregur, repaired to Baroda, where, after a stay of two months, he marched against and reduced Kaira, and then proceeded to Ahmedabad, where he placed Gopal Rao as Sirsuba, Gunesh Appajee's troops refusing to come out of the fort till they were paid their arrears. He then went to Beesanugur, with his son, Futteh Sing, then twenty years of age, which place, after a siege of twenty-two months, submitted to his authority. He also took from Juwan Murd Khan Babee all the places given him by the Peshwa, excepting the five districts he had received in Jageer. Damajee, who was a great chemist, had frequently attempted to discover the philosopher's stone, and it was from inhaling the noxious vapours of some poisonous combination that he died in Puttun, August A. D. 1768. He was succeeded by his eldest son, Syajee Rao, who being deranged in his intellects, Futteh Sing,* the third son of Damajee, administered his affairs with all the power of independence.

During the administration of Futteh Sing Rao, Noor-ood-deen kept on very

* This is a mistake. On his death, in 1768, Damajee left four sons, named Syajee (who was an imbecile), Govind Rao, Manajee Rao, and Futteh Sing. Syajee, the eldest son, being deranged in his intellect, Govind Rao claimed the right to succeed, which claim was recognised by the Peshwa on the payment by Govind Rao of fifty lakhs of rupees, the promise of an annual tribute of nearly eight lakhs of rupees, and the services of a large body of horse. This arrangement continued until the year 1772, when, to the prejudice of Govind Rao, Futteh Sing induced the Peshwa to recognise Syajee's claim, and to appoint him (Futteh Sing) his Mootalik or Deputy.—*Editor.*

good terms with the Gaekwar Government. In A. D. 1772 dissensions arose in Poona between Rugoonath Rao and Narayen Rao, which ended in the murder of the latter, and the establishment in power of the former, who dismissed Govind Rao, the second son of Damajee Gaekwar, to take the authority held by his brother Futteh Sing in Baroda into his own hands. While Govind Rao was engaged in the siege of Baroda, Narayen Rao's wife was delivered of a son, who was placed, to the prejudice of Rugoonath Rao, on the Peshwa's Musnud. Rugoonath Rao, after various adventures, sought protection from Noor-ood-deen of Cambay, who refused to admit him into the city. Rugoonath Rao then went to Bhownugur, whence he embarked on a ship to Bombay.

In the year A. D. 1774, Rugoonath Rao arrived at Cambay with some English troops, commanded by General Stewart, whose heroic acts acquired him the name of Stewart Phankra (or the hero). Rugoonath Rao wished much to take Cambay from Noor-ood-deen, for his behaviour to him in passing through it some time before, but by means of Sir Charles Malet, the English Resident at Cambay, a reconciliation was effected between them, and Rugoonath Rao gave Noor-ood-deen very valuable presents. Shortly after this, the famous battle fought between the English and Murathas between the villages of Wowta Bailla and Arras, in which the Murathas were completely routed, took place.

In A. D. 1777 Futteh Sing requesting the assistance of Noor-ood-deen in opposing his brother Govind Rao, Noor-ood-deen joined him at Pitlaud with five hundred men, but returned to Cambay, as he was mourning for a relation, leaving his troops with Futteh Sing. A battle was fought between the brothers at Neriad, in which Futteh Sing was victorious. Govind Rao fled to Ahmedabad, and Kundeh Rao, Damajee's brother, who was leagued with him, took refuge in Kurre. After this Noor-ood-deen joined Futteh Sing a second time, his days of mourning being past. Futteh Sing on this occasion pressed Noor-ood-deen to keep up a force on the banks of the Saburmutee, to repel the incursions of the Katees. Noor-ood-deen consented, on Futteh Sing assigning him the revenues of six villages of the Pitlaud and Mahter Purgunas (of Pitlaud, Kunjut, Kuneesa, Sath, and Bhunbheeny; of Mahter, Jheeker, and Ghorar) so long as he continued to do so. The revenues of these villages amounted to Rs. 9,000.

Noor-ood-deen, after receiving the benefits of this arrangement, was so faithless as to remain in league with the Katees. Futteh Sing demanded an explanation of his conduct, which Noor-ood-deen never gave him. Necessity at last obliged him to keep a force on the Saburmutee, for the Katees, hearing of his engagement with Futteh Sing, plundered a great part of his district. Accordingly in 1778 he posted fifteen hundred infantry and five hundred horsemen between Terrapoor and the Mahter Purguna.

When Noor-ood-deen had thus effectually stopped the possibility of a Katee invasion, he intimated to Futteh Sing that the expense of this force exceeded his means of maintaining it, and requested that he might be reimbursed

in a sum equal to as much as the Katee plunder generally amounted to. Before he received an answer from Futteh Sing, conceiving his demand a matter of right, he levied by force a very large sum of money from the Pitlaud Purguna. In consequence of this, Futteh Sing agreed to pay him a yearly sum of Rs. 9,000 from himself, and Rs. 10,000 from the Peshwa, besides Rs. 2,500 from the Mahter Purguna.

When General Goddard entered Guzerat in A. D. 1780, Futteh Sing bought his friendship with Rs. 10,00,000, for the payment of which he gave his daughter as an hostage. By means of the influence of General Goddard, and from the occurrence of many events connected with his appearance in Guzerat, Futteh Sing (who received from the General, after the capture of Ahmedabad by that officer, all that portion of Guzerat which had been subject to the Peshwa), did not exact the revenues paid by Cambay to the Peshwa. The Phoorza gate was unwillingly given up by Noor-ood-deen to the Company, as some acknowledgment of the favour done him through General Goddard. It was only kept during the residence of Sir Charles Malet at Cambay. By a succession of extraordinary events the Peshwa again acquired his possessions in Guzerat, and amongst the rest the revenues of Cambay. Though the Peshwa had always had a half of the revenues it was only nominal, for Noor-ood-deen contrived to make them be satisfied with less than a fourth; and this was the reason that the Peshwa's share was from 1766 always termed a Chouth, or fourth, and not, as formerly, Nisf, or half.

Khan Jehan, the legitimate son of Noor-ood-deen, by his wife Budee-ool-Jumal, was secretly murdered by his father in A. D. 1772. Meerza Zeman, who was accessory to this wicked act, was promoted to Khan Jehan's office of Naib, and had great influence in the councils of Noor-ood-deen. Had not his promotion to office been stained with crime, he would have deserved the praises bestowed on him by the inhabitants of a miserable and oppressed city, who had a respite from oppression for ten years that he administered the affairs of Noor-ood-deen. In A. D. 1782 Meerza Zeman was thrown into prison. When he was taken out, he was brought before the Nuwab, who gave him some paltry presents, and his dismissal from office.

Meerza Zeman was succeeded in power by a woman of the most abandoned course of life, who, being a descendant of Abdool Hussein Dehlamee, whose history is already related, it may be proper to say something respecting her and her family. Abdool Hussein had a son and a daughter: the latter, as before stated, married Meerza Jaffer Nizam-ood-Dowla, the founder of the Cambay family; the former, Bakur Khan, was appointed Subadar of Kashmere, at the time Meerza Jaffer, his brother-in-law, came into Guzerat with Ubhi Sing. Bakur Khan was expelled by the Kashmerees, and fled to his relations in Guzerat, where he remained unemployed. He had one son, Mahomed Jan, illegitimate, at present residing in Cambay, and who a few years ago travelled overland to England. Bakur Khan's daughters were Budee-ool-Jumal or Khanum Jan, legitimate, and three illegitimate, Zabda Khanum, Kootbee

Khanum, and Jumeela Begum. Budee-ool-Jumal was married to Noor-ood-deen Momin Khan, who had one son by her, Khan Jehan, murdered, as above stated, by his father. Zabda Khanum died in early life. Jumeela Begum married a man called Meerza Mahomed Ali, who had a daughter by her, called Mah Munzil-ool-Nissa, and this daughter has illegitimate issue a daughter, who now* resides in Delhi, and bears the name of her mother, Mah Munzil-ool-Nissa Begum. Kootbee Khanum was married to Aga Rashid Beg, whose murder by Noor-ood-deen is above related. This woman, on her arrival at Surat, gave herself up to the most abandoned practices, and qualifying herself in wickedness to be a suitable companion for Noor-ood-deen, she wrote to him that she was distracted at their distant separation, and begged he would be so kind as to furnish her with the means of returning to Cambay. Noor-ood-deen, bringing to recollection the charms on which he had once doted, sent her money and valuable presents. Had the Mahomedan laws permitted, he would have married her; but they forbid marriage with two sisters.

It was to the diabolical machinations of this infamous woman that the inhabitants of Cambay became a prey after ten years of comparative happiness. Her rapacity was as great as its duration was short. Noor-ood-deen died on the 28th of Sufur A. H. 1198 (A. D. 1783), after having oppressed Cambay for thirty-three Mahomedan years. The character of this man may be comprised in a few words:—Rancour, malignity, ingratitude, and low cunning strove for an ascendancy in his disposition; while his cruelty and avarice incited him to commit acts that would have stained the fame of a barbarian ruler in the eyes of his unpolished subjects. He frequently acted the part of a madman, but he played the role of a diabolical knave to admiration.

He instituted in A. D. 1768 a tax of one anna in the rupee on every article of wearing apparel, and on everything edible, sold in the city of Cambay: this tax is still levied. His intrigues with Sindia, and his ingratitude to the Company's Government, are not related, since he neither derived benefit from the former, nor punishment for the latter.

Four months before his death, Noor-ood-deen caused Mahomed Kulee to be placed in his hall of state, and he there appointed him his successor. But when Noor-ood-deen died, Mahomed Kulee had a dreadful conspiracy to contend against, headed by the infamous Kootbee Khanum, in favour of her son, Meerza Janee, by Noor-ood-deen, and supported by the greatest part of the Mogul population of Cambay. Mahomed Kulee was backed by the Raja of Ahmode's daughter, a mistress of Noor-ood-deen, who had protected Mahomed Kulee's wife, Jognee Khanum, after the death of her mother Meethee, the slave girl of the Raja of Ahmode's daughter, who, enjoying the favour of Noor-ood-deen, as well as her mistress, had the fortune to bear him this daughter.

Mahomed Kulee gained the ascendancy, and Kootbee Khanum, with her sister, Jumeela Begum, was expelled from Cambay with a number of Moguls.

Little occurred during the six years' government of Mahomed Kulee. He ruled in quietness, and the people were contented with his administration. The only circumstance that occurred worth relating is that he gave protection to a man called Tapeedas, who, having committed a misdemeanour in the Gaekwar village of Walore, of which he was Patel, was pursued by Futteh Sing. Mahomed Kulee refusing to deliver up Tapeedas when required to do so by Futteh Sing, a Gaekwar force marched to Cambay, and obliged him to pay them a fine of Rs. 15,000. Tapeedas fled to Bhownugur. Mahomed Kulee and Futteh Sing were ever after on good terms. Mahomed Kulee died on the 22nd of Jumadee-ool-Awul A. H. 1204 (A. D. 1789-90), and Futteh Sing survived him a very short time. Manajee Rao succeeded his brother Futteh Sing in the direction of the affairs of Baroda.

Mahomed Kulee left three sons, Futteh Ali, Bundeh Ali, and Yover Ali, the eldest of whom, Futteh Ali, the present* Nuwab, succeeded his father in the year Sumvut 1846 (A. D. 1789-90). Manajee, immediately on his accession to the management of affairs in Baroda, sent people to seize the six villages, which he said had been given to Noor-ood-deen by Futteh Sing because Noor-ood-deen's expenses and their friendship were great, but that both of these causes had died with the men. Futteh Ali immediately despatched Dilput Rao to Baroda with presents, on the occasion of Manajee's accession to power, and to establish a conciliatory intercourse with him, the sole view of which was that the seizure of the villages should not take place, or be delayed. The negotiations of Dilput Rao ended in the villages being left in Noor-ood-deen's possession, and the Rs. 10,000 paid for Katypal being abolished. Since then a sum on account of Katypal has never been paid by the Gaekwar.

The next act of Futteh Ali was to remit a considerable present to the Court of Delhi, whence in return he obtained the title of Nizam-ood-Dowla Momtaz-ool-Moolk Momin Khan Bahadoor Dilawur Jung, and the dignity of a commander of six thousand as Nuwab of Cambay.

Manajee Gaekwar† died in Sumvut 1849 (A. D. 1792-93), and was succeeded by Govind Rao, his elder brother. Govind Rao without the smallest hesitation seized the six disputed villages, and Futteh Ali was again successful in negotiating their restitution.

In the last years of Selooker's Subadaree, Atmaram Bhow entered the Cambay district, and continued to plunder its inhabitants, till Futteh Ali bought his recession for Rs. 30,000.

Govind Rao died in the month of October 1800, and was succeeded by his son, Anund Rao Gaekwar, the present* Raja of Baroda. After the disturbances excited in Baroda by Kanojee had been quelled, and Anund Rao left

* A. D. 1812.

† Who had been Regent of the Baroda State from the death of Futteh Sing, in 1789.

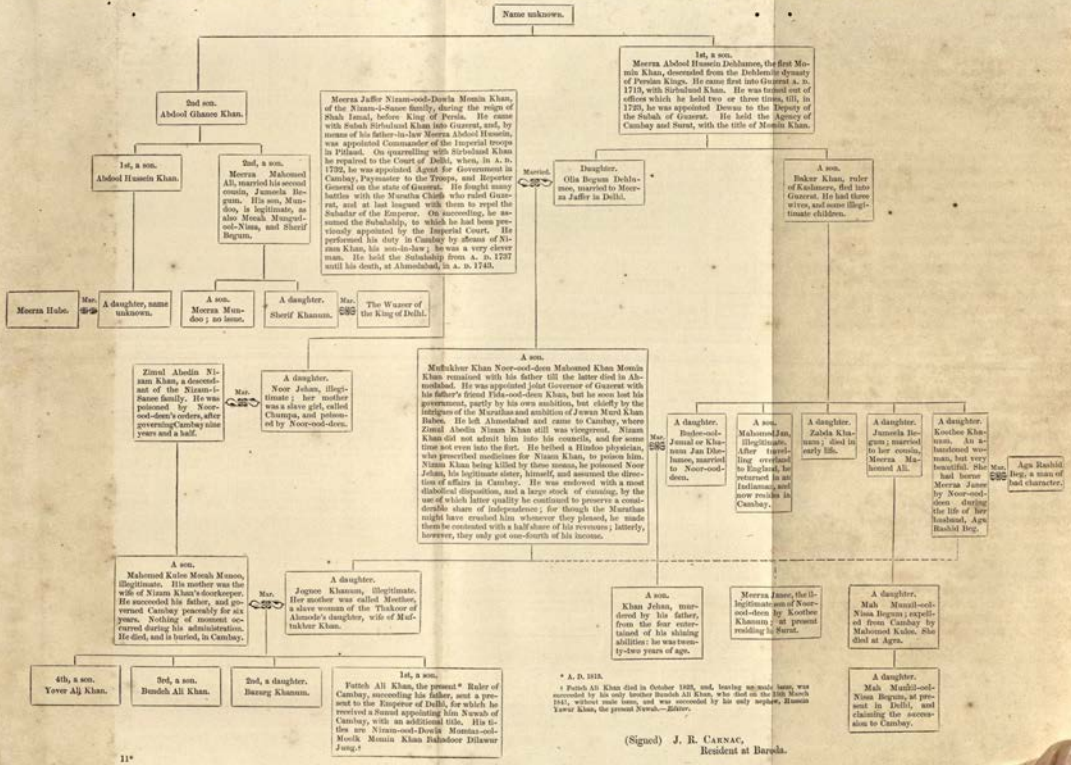
uncontrolled in his acts, Babajee Appajee was despatched to Kattywar for the collection of the Jumabundee due by the chieftains of that country. When only fives miles from Baroda, he summoned Futteh Ali to discharge his dues for Ghas Dana, at the same time intimating that, according to the delay he might occasion his army, the demand would be proportionally increased. Futteh Ali returned no answer; the consequence was, that when Babajee encamped at Pitlaud, he told him he would not be contented with less than Rs. 1,00,000. Futteh Ali, perceiving that Babajee would not scruple to exact so large a sum, deputed an agent to him, who effected a settlement of Rs. 50,000, a sum with which in all probability Appajee would not have been satisfied, had his services not been demanded in quelling a rebellion then set on foot by Mulhar Rao of Kurre, who aspired to the power of Anund Rao, his second cousin. Babajee was joined with a reinforcement of troops, commanded by Hunmunt Rao, the son of Anund Rao, but His Highness Anund Rao's Minister finding that all the forces he could raise would be inadequate to cope with the superior strength of Mulhar Rao, demanded the assistance of the English Government. By means of Kemal-ood-deen Khan, a most respectable and dignified nobleman in the service of Anund Rao, Raojee Appajee prevailed with the Government of Bombay in obtaining a detachment of British troops, which, being placed under the command of Major Walker, arrived at Cambay in the beginning of 1802. Mr. Duncan, the Governor of Bombay, having at the same time proceeded to Cambay, Raojee Appajee, the Minister of His Highness Anund Rao, paid him a visit at that place. Futteh Ali behaved with marked disrespect to Raojee Appajee, but as the latter was come on other business than to prove the friendship of the former, he did not at that time take any notice of his conduct.

In the year 1806 Bapoo Kashee, commander of the Gaekwar Myhee Kanta force, under the directions of Seetaram Raojee, seized the six disputed villages, since Babajee Appajee, by his effective arrangements in Kattywar, rendered the maintenance of a force to prevent the incursions of the Katees unnecessary. Bapoo Kashee at the same time took bonds from many of the Cambay villages for the payment of sums of money, but Futteh Ali complaining to the Governor of Bombay, Major Walker, the British Resident at Baroda, obtained the restitution of the bonds, under a promise that the English Government would take the trouble of interfering with Futteh Ali, and of obtaining from him the regular payment, without force, of the Gaekwar's lawful claims.

Futteh Ali, as all his predecessors did, never paid any due without force, and has only considered the intervention of the Company a sure method of escaping the future payment of the Gaekwar demands.

Futteh Ali is reckoned a man of a weak, capricious character, and has been governed in his councils by a succession of favourites.

GENEALOGICAL TABLE, FRAMED IN THE YEAR 1813, OF THE FAMILY OF THE NUWAB OF CAMBAY, AND TWO BRANCHES OF THE DEHLUMEE FAMILY.

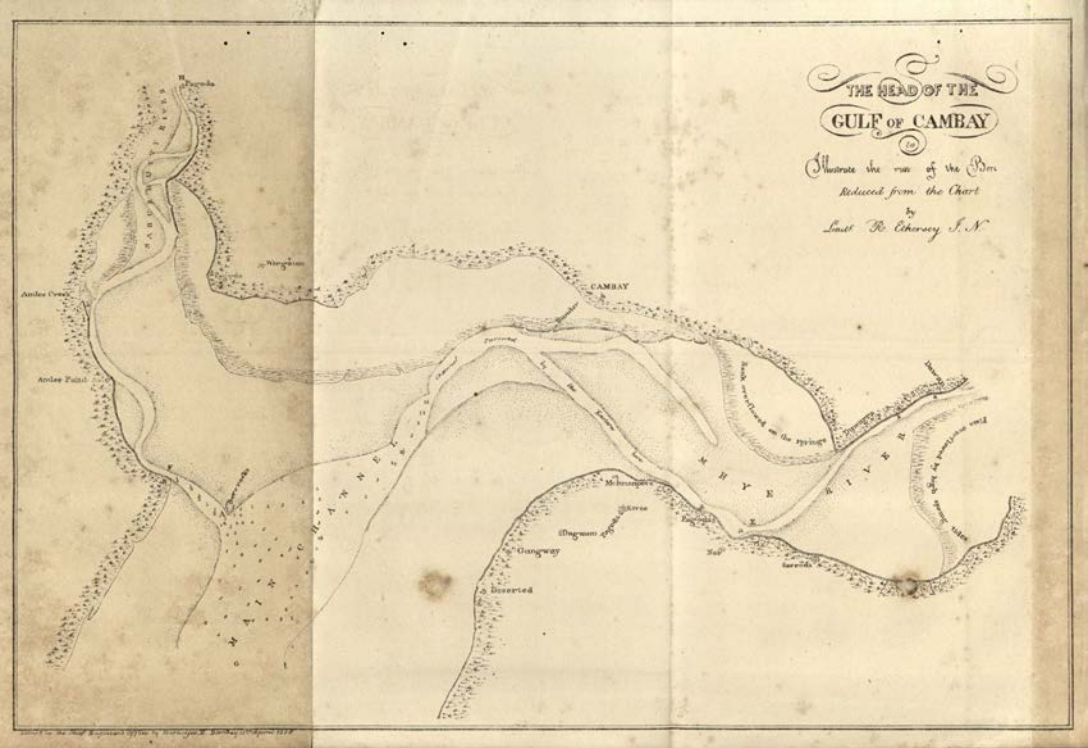

Name unknown.
1st, a son.
Meerza Abdool Hussein Dehlumee, the first Mo-
min Khan, descended from the Dehlemee dynasty
of Persian Kings. He came first into Guzerat A. D.
1713, with Sirbuland Khan. He was found out of
offices which he held two or three times, till, in
1723, he was appointed Dewan to the Deputy of
the Subah of Guzerat. He held the Agency of
Cambay and Surat, with the title of Momin Khan.
2nd son.
Abdool Ghanee Khan.
Meerza Jaffer Nizam-ood-Dowla Momin Khan,
of the Nizam-i-Sanee family, during the reign of
Shah Ismail, before King of Persia. He came
with Subah Sirbulund Khan into Guzerat, and, by
means of his father-in-law Meerza Abdool Hussein,
was appointed Commander of the Imperial troops
in Pittaud. On quarrelling with Sirbulund Khan
he repaired to the Court of Delhi, when, in A. D.
1732, he was appointed Agent for Government in
Cambay, Paymaster to the Troops, and Reporter
General on the state of Guzerat. He fought many
battles with the Mursatha Chiefs who ruled Guze-
rat, and at last leagued with them to expel the
Subadar of the Emperor. On succeeding, he as-
sumed the Subahship, to which he had been pre-
viously appointed by the Imperial Court. He
performed his duty in Cambay by affairs of Ni-
zam Khan, his son-in-law; he was a very clever
man. He held the Subahship from A. D. 1737
until his death, at Ahmedabad, in A. D. 1743.
Married.
Daughter.
Olia Begum Dehlu-
mee, married to Mee-
za Jaffer in Delhi.
A son.
Bakur Khan, ruler
of Kalmere, fled into
Guzerat. He had three
wives, and some illegi-
timate children.
1st, a son.
Abdool Hussein Khan.
2nd, a son.
Meerza Mahomed
Ali, married his second
cousin, Jumeela Be-
gums. His son, Mun-
doo, is legitimate, as
also Meerah Mungul-
ood-Nissa, and Sherif
Begum.
Meerza Hube.
Mar.
A daughter, name
unknown.
A son.
Meerza Mun-
doo; no issue.
A daughter.
Sherif Khanum.
Mar.
The Wuzeer of
the King of Delhi.
Zimul Abedin Ni-
zam Khan, a descend-
ant of the Nizam-i-
Sanee family. He was
poisoned by Noor-
ood-deen's orders, after
governing Cambay nine
years and a half.
Mar.
A daughter.
Noor Jehan, illegi-
timate; her mother
was a slave girl, called
Champa, and poison-
ed by Noor-ood-deen.
A son.
Muftukher Khan Noor-ood-deen Mahomed Khan Momin
Khan remained with his father till the latter died in Ah-
medabad. He was appointed joint Governor of Guzerat with
his father's friend Fida-ood-deen Khan, but he soon lost his
government, partly by his own ambition, but chiefly by the
intrigues of the Mursathas and ambition of Juwan Murd Khan
Babee. He left Ahmedabad and came to Cambay, where
Zimul Abedin Nizam Khan still was viceregent. Nizam
Khan did not admit him into his councils, and for some
time not even into the fort. He bribed a Hindoo physician,
who prescribed medicines for Nizam Khan, to poison him.
Nizam Khan being killed by these means, he poisoned Noor
Jehan, his legitimate sister, himself, and assumed the direc-
tion of affairs in Cambay. He was endowed with a most
diabolical disposition, and a large stock of cunning, by the
use of which latter quality he continued to preserve a consi-
derable share of independence; for though the Mursathas
might have crushed him whenever they pleased, he made
them be contented with a half share of his revenues; latterly,
however, they only got one-fourth of his income.
Mar.
A daughter.
Bedee-ood-
Jemal or Kha-
noom Jan Dhe-
lumee, married
to Noor-ood-
deen.
A son.
Mahomed Jan,
illegitimate.
After travel-
ling overland
to England, he
returned in an
Indiaman, and
now resides in
Cambay.
A daughter.
Zabela Kha-
noom; died in
early life.
A daughter.
Jumeela Be-
gum; married
to her cousin,
Meerza Ma-
homed Ali.
A daughter.
Koothee Kha-
noom. An il-
landsomed wo-
man, but very
beautiful. She
had borne
Meerza Jusee
by Noor-ood-
deen during
the life of her
husband, Aga
Rashid Beg.
Mar.
Aga Rashid
Beg, a man of
bad character.
A son.
Mahomed Kulee Mooah Momoo,
illegitimate. His mother was the
wife of Nizam Khan's doorkeeper.
He succeeded his father, and go-
verned Cambay peaceably for six
years. Nothing of moment oc-
curred during his administration.
He died, and is buried, in Cambay.
Mar.
A daughter.
Jognee Khanum, illegitimate.
Her mother was called Mother,
a slave woman of the Thakore of
Almode's daughter, wife of Muf-
tukher Khan.
A son.
Khan Jehan, mur-
dered by his father,
from the fear enter-
tained of his shining
abilities: he was twen-
ty-two years of age.
Meerza Jusee, the il-
legitimate son of Noor-
ood-deen by Koothee
Khanum, at present
residing in Surat.
A daughter.
Mah Munsil-ood-
Nissa Begum; expell-
ed from Cambay by
Mahomed Kulee. She
died at Agra.
4th, a son.
Yover Alj Khan.
3rd, a son.
Bundeh Ali Khan.
2nd, a daughter.
Bazerg Khanum.
1st, a son.
Futteh Ali Khan, the present* Ruler of
Cambay, succeeding his father, sent a pre-
sent to the Emperor of Delhi, for which he
received a Sunnud appointing him Nuwab of
Cambay, with an additional title. His ti-
tles are Nizam-ood-Dowla Momtaz-ood-
Moolk Momin Khan Bahadoor Dilawur
Jung.†
A daughter.
Mah Munsil-ood-
Nissa Begum, at pres-
ent in Delhi, and
claiming the succes-
sion to Cambay.

* A. D. 1813.

† Futteh Ali Khan died in October 1825, and, leaving no male issue, was succeeded by his only brother Bundeh Ali Khan, who died on the 25th March 1845, without male issue, and was succeeded by his only nephew, Hussein Yawur Khan, the present Nuwab.—*Editor.*

(Signed) J. R. CARNAC,
Resident at Baroda.

11*


THE HEAD OF THE
GULF OF CAMBAY
Illustrate the run of the Bore
Reduced from the Chart
by
Lieut R. Etheresey I.N.
Nargole
Nargam
Amlee Creek
Amlee Point
CAMBAY
Channel
Dorried
Sand uncovered at the Springs
Mahesangam
River
Dugwan
Gungway
Deserted
MAHYE RIVER
Gurcolo
Dhuwan
MAIN CHANNEL

OBSERVATIONS

ON THE

"BORE," OR RUSHING TIDE IN THE NORTHERN PARTS OF THE GULF OF CAMBAY,

AND THE ENTRANCES OF THE MYHEE AND SABURMUTEE RIVERS.

BY

LIEUTENANT R. ETHERSEY

INDIAN NAVY.

Submitted to Government on the 13*th March* 1837.

CAMBAY "BORE."

PREVIOUS to entering upon this interesting subject, a short description of the Gulf will perhaps not be superfluous, which, together with the accompanying chart, will tend to illustrate the cause of the phenomenon, and show the direction of the wave.

This Gulf is situated between 21° 5′ and 22° 17′ N. lat., and 72° 19′ and 72° 55′ E. long., being seventy-two miles long, varying considerably in breadth. At the entrance, between Vaux's Tomb and Goopnauth Point, it is thirty-two miles, which in a distance of ten leagues narrows between Broach Bar and the island of Perim to eight miles; it then opens out again to nineteen miles, between the entrance of the Dahdur river and the opposite coast. This space, with the exception of three channels, is occupied by extensive shoals. It contracts again at Gungway and the East Point to ten miles, with sandbanks projecting from the shore on either side, which leave a channel between them towards the centre of the Gulf from three and a half to four and a half miles wide.

From the head of the Malaeea Banks to the parallel of Loharra Point, at the entrance of the Nerbudda river, it is, with the exception of the Bugwa Sands, clear of shoals, with an irregular bottom, the soundings being from eight to thirty fathoms; but above this parallel, it is filled with extensive shoals and sandbanks, having several deep channels between them, all of which are liable to shift, particularly during the rains. These channels all take a northerly direction, and unite a little below G, forming a channel three and a half miles wide, the most water in it being six fathoms. This takes a north-easterly direction, runs close past Cambay Creek, from which it crosses to the south-eastward, and enters the Myhee river.

Another channel runs from the Saburmutee river, close past the Amlee Creek, from whence it keeps pretty close to the shore, and disembogues in the main channel below the Bore Rocks, in both of which the flood tide makes with a Bore or wave, which is caused, wherever it is observed in this part of the world, by a rapidly flowing tide being forced through a narrow, obstructed passage.

The rivers which empty themselves into the Gulf are the Nerbudda, Dahdur, Myhee, and Saburmutee. The two latter are the only ones that can at all have

any effect on the Bore, which in the fine season is trifling, as the discharge from them is so very inconsiderable; for the channel opposite Dawan, on the left bank of the Myhee, is only three hundred yards wide, a few inches deep, and the stream scarcely perceptible. Again, at the small pagoda, marked H in the chart, on the right bank of the Saburmutee river, the channel at low-water is only one hundred and fifty yards wide, with a mean depth of two feet, but the stream too weak to be ascertained by the log.

The tides throughout the Gulf are extremely rapid, and the rise and fall very large. The whole coast is low, overflowed for some distance inland on high springs, and is intersected by numerous small creeks and inlets.

Its situation being such as to receive the full force of the tide wave coming from the southward, and from Diu Head along the Kattywar Coast, together with its peculiar shape, will, I think, sufficiently account for the strong tides which are experienced here; for at Perim the stream is forced through a space four times less that it occupied between the Tomb and Goopnauth Point; and again at G, below the Bore Rocks, the stream flows into a channel only one-ninth part of its original width, being not quite half of its breadth at Perim, from which circumstances the velocity of the tide is considerably increased as it flows towards the northern parts of the Gulf.

The Eastern or principal Bore rises five miles to the WSW. of Cambay Creek, and is not perceptible on the neaps, without the previous springs have been very high, when it may be observed slightly through the quarter. It generally commences when the springs begin to lift, the wave increasing daily in height as the tides gain strength, and is at its greatest height about two days after new and full moon. Its height depends upon the position of the moon with respect to the earth, and consequently upon the rise and strength of the tide; for at new moon, when she is in Perigee, at which time the highest tides occur, the wave of the Bore will be greatest; and at full moon, when she is in Apogee, and the tides lower than any other springs, it will be least. It also varies with the night and day tide, because the higher the tide the greater is its velocity, and as the two tides differ from six to eight feet, and still the flood of both runs the same length of time, the highest tide must have the greatest velocity; and hence the wave of the Bore will be highest with the greatest tide. The night tide both of new and full moon is the highest.

By a reference to the chart, it will be seen that the channel between the Bore Rocks and A is quite clear and free from shoals. It is four and a quarter miles wide, and the greatest depth six fathoms, where I found the velocity of the tide as follows, the direction NE. and SW. :—

		K.	F.			
High springs	Flood.....	6	0	per hour		Rise and fall 33 feet.
	Ebb	7	2	„	„	
Ordinary springs..	Flood.....	4	4	„	„	Rise and fall 25 feet.
	Ebb	6	2	„	„	
Neaps	Flood.....	3	6	„	„	Rise and fall 18 feet.
	Ebb	5	0	„	„	

From this the channel begins to narrow, with a decreasing depth of water, until at B* it is only five hundred and fifty yards wide, the most water being seven feet. It is at this point that the tide first rises in a wave. When the flood makes, this may be seen running along both sides of the sandbanks, which soon spreads across the channel, rapidly increasing in height, for by the time it passed C, a distance of not quite a mile and a half, it was nearly as high, with as great a velocity, as at any part of its course. From C it runs close to the high cliffs as far as D, spreading entirely across the channel, and rushing along with a loud roar. The small sandbank which commences at D turns it to the southward of east, and when abreast of Cambay Creek it is divided into two parts by another sandbank, the most considerable of the two taking a south-easterly direction towards the south bank of the Myhee river; and continues on this side as far as E, where it crosses to the north bank, close to which it pursues its course to the village of Dawan, where it is entirely broken and intercepted by a number of sandbanks, but proceeds several miles further up, although, from the increased elevation of the bed of the river, with greatly diminished height and velocity.

The other stream runs to the eastward, and is soon exhausted, there being no free channel for it; and the banks are greatly elevated with gradual slopes, over which it flows very slow.

The following shows the result of my observations on the ordinary spring in December:—

December 24th.—Between C and Cambay Creek the highest part of the wave is three and a half feet; its velocity nine knots; the strength of the tide after the Bore had passed,—

H.	M.		K.	F.	
0	5	after.....	3	6	per hour.
0	10	„	5	7	„
0	20	„	4	4	„
0	30	„	6	0	„
0	40	„	7	0	„
0	50	„	6	2	„

Seven knots was the strongest. The flood ran three hours; rise and fall of the night tide twenty-three feet; the day tide sixteen feet six inches; giving a difference of six feet six inches.

During the first hour the rise of tide was 15 feet.
„ second „ „ 6 „
„ third „ „ 2 „

Six feet in the first hour rose during the first ten minutes, which will give some idea of the rapidity with which the tide rises.

January 7th.—Very high spring, nearly up to the mark of the tide in the

* Vide Map at page 85.

rains. Between C and Cambay Creek, the highest part of the wave six feet, and its velocity ten and a quarter knots; the strength of the tide, after the Bore had passed, as follows :—

H.	M.		K.	F.	
0	20	after.....	4	6	per hour.
0	30	„	6	6	„
0	40	„	7	6	„
0	50	„	8	0	„
1	00	„	7	0	„
1	20	„	6	0	„

The flood tide ran three hours and two minutes ; rise and fall of the night tide thirty feet eleven inches ; the day tide twenty-three feet ; the difference being seven feet eleven inches.

	ft.	in.
Rise of tide during the first hour	18	4
„ „ „ second „	8	4
„ „ „ third „	3	6

The ebb tide runs steady, but does not acquire its greatest strength until more than half tide, when the high banks are uncovered, and the stream is confined in its proper channel.

January 10th.—Near the village of Dawan, on the north bank of the Myhee, the highest part of the wave seven feet, and its velocity ten knots ; rise and fall of the night tide twenty-two feet; but by the mark of the tide on shore, this was one foot lower than it had been the day or two before, which is too trifling to have diminished the effects of the Bore. I was not able to time the rise of the tide here, having no convenient place to erect a scale. It ran only two hours fifty minutes; the greatest velocity of the flood was seven knots, and the ebb six knots two furlongs.

The Western Bore is so similar to the one just described, in almost every particular except its direction, and effect, that a very few remarks will be all that is necessary; which, as I have before described it, would have been superfluous, had I not found so great an alteration in the banks and channel since my former report.

I found that from seven hundred to thirteen hundred yards of the shore had been washed away the whole way from I to the East Point, which is thirteen hundred yards further south than its former position. The bank all along being a sandy cliff, continues still to fall with such rapidity, from the action of the tide undermining it, that in a short time the coast will be quite straight, from the Amlee Creek, below what is now the East Point. Tons of this sandy bank are detached from the shore at a time, which continues to fall into the water at different parts, in such quick succession that it sounds at a distance like heavy artillery, these cliffs, at two-thirds ebb, being from eighteen to twenty feet high.

Again, the high sandbanks that laid to the eastward of the Amlee Creek, which were only partially covered on the neaps, have been swept away; nothing but low sandbanks remain in their place, and the channel leading to the Saburmutee river, which from Amlee Point took a NNE. direction, direct for that river, now turns to the NNW. at Amlee Point, and runs along the shore bank close past Amlee Creek, where it turns to the north-eastward for the Myhee.

The Bore on this side is greatly diminished from what it was, the cause of which will, I think, be evident, when it is considered that formerly, instead of the whole force of the tide setting, as at present, to the north-eastward, past the Bore Rocks, it took a NNW. direction, right into the western channel, below the above rocks, which is only now fed by a portion of the tide from the main stream.

At present the wave of the Bore on this side, as on the other, is not perceptible, as formerly, on the neaps, but is entirely confined to the springs, at which time it takes its rise at F, where the channel is only one hundred and fifty yards wide, with three feet water in it; its course is close to the shore as far as *b*, where it turns, and has to encounter a stream of two knots. I found its height here increase to four feet. After passing this, the channel widens a little, having low sandbanks, which it spreads over, the wave decreasing to one and a half and two feet, and continues this height past Amlee Point, where it again runs close to the steep bank, and increases to three feet. It thus rushes along until it nears the Amlee Creek, where it has to encounter a stream of two and a half knots, and, in consequence of the channel turning its whole force, is directed to that part of the high sandbank marked *b*, where the wave was five feet. After passing this, it gradually diminishes to a few inches; for the banks are very low, and the water so shallow, that it can scarcely be called a channel, so that the tide is not confined, but flows over the banks in all directions. It forms again, however, at the entrance of the Saburmutee, where the highest part was two feet. It continues its course from this to a foot and a half nearly to H, one mile past which it is lessened to a few inches.

December 9th.—Between ———* and Amlee Point, the highest part of the wave five feet; its velocity eight and a half knots; velocity of the flood tide, after the Bore had passed, as follows:—

H.	M.		K.	F.	
0	10	after.....	3	2	per hour.
0	20	„	4	7	„
0	30	„	4	4	„
0	40	„	5	0	„
0	50	„	5	6	„
1	00	„	5	4	„
1	20	„	5	0	„

* Blank in the original.

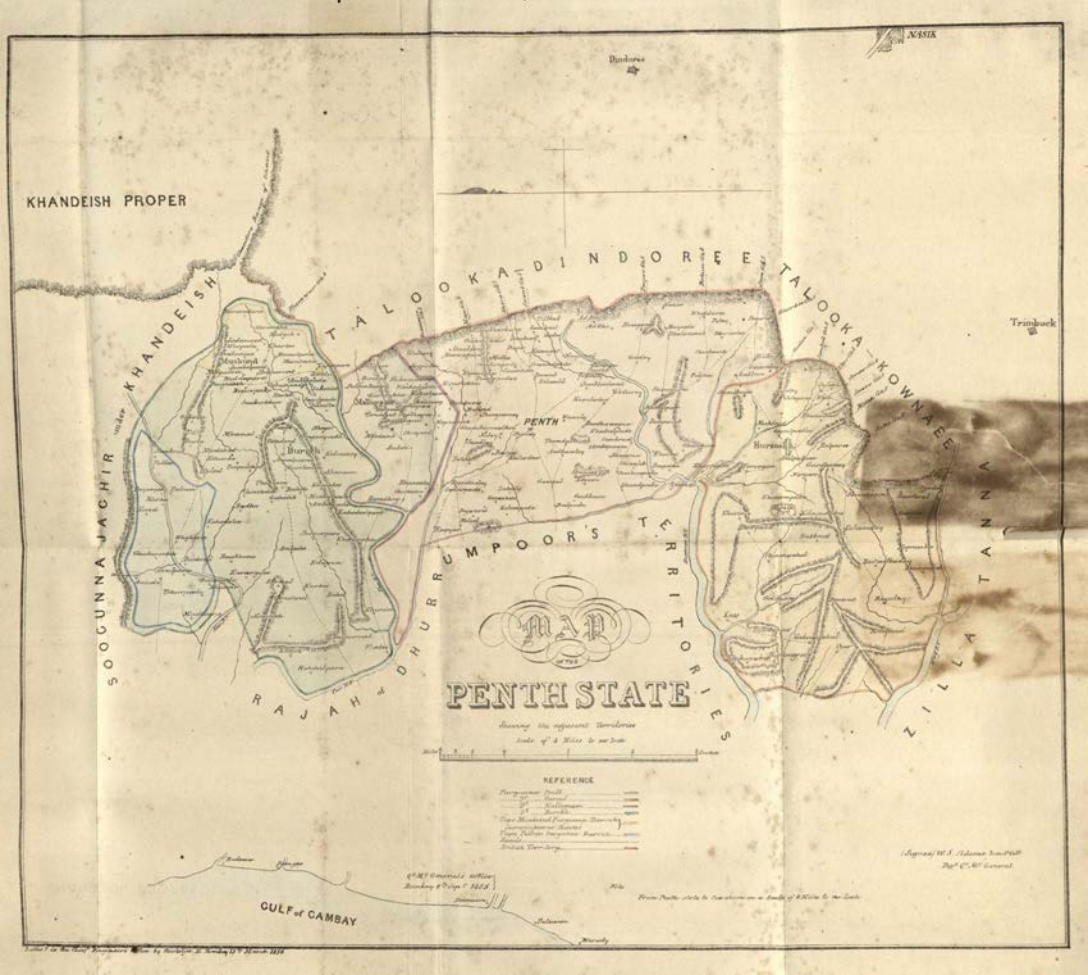
Rise and fall of the night tide twenty-eight feet; day tide twenty-one feet two inches; the difference being six feet ten inches. The flood ran three hours and five minutes.

The velocity of the wave was ascertained by measuring a distance of from two to three and a half miles in those parts where the wave ran close to the shore bank, and noting the time it took to go from one station to another by a good watch; the height of the wave, off Cambay, Dawan, and the Amlee Creek by a pole, having feet marked on it; at other parts by estimation; the velocity of the flood measured by the common log-line and glass, the patent log being of no use, from the irregularity of the stream, as it would only have given a mean rate.

I have given the greatest height of the wave during each spring, but this does not continue the same throughout its course, being affected by several circumstances which cause it to vary in different parts. For instance, at those points marked in the chart *a a a* in the Myhee, and *b b* on the western side, where the bank is steep, forming a concave, and the stream strong, while the direction of the Bore is towards the steep bank, the wave at these points will be greatly increased, in consequence of the force of the tide being directed to one point, as well as by the resistance of the stream. It is at these places that the wave frequently forms quite perpendicular, having the appearance of a wall, when it curls, and breaks with a thundering roar.

In those parts of its course where the sandbanks are low on both sides, with a strong stream running in the centre, which is the case in several parts on both sides, the middle part of the wave will be retarded and increased by the resistance of the ebb, while towards each side, which is out of its influence, the wave proceeds with undiminished velocity, the whole forming in a crescent shape across the channel.

By the foregoing observations it will be seen that the tide does not attain its full strength until forty and fifty minutes after it has made. It is until that time very irregular, coming with a sudden burst, with great velocity, then decreasing again slightly. The tide never attains the same velocity as the wave of the Bore has: why this is the case I am not able to determine.


KHANDEISH PROPER
Dindoree
Trimbuck
TALOOKA DINDOREE
TALOOKA KOWNAEE
SOOCUNNA JAGHIR under KHANDEISH
RAJAH of DHURUMPOOR'S TERRITORIES
ZILLA NASIK
PENTH
Burdee
Pimpulgaon
MAP
PENTH STATE
Showing the adjacent Territories
REFERENCE
GULF of CAMBAY

HISTORICAL, STATISTICAL, AND OTHER NOTES,

CONNECTED WITH

THE PENTH ESTATE,

IN THE NASIK SUB-COLLECTORATE.

BY

MR. W. J. TURQUAND,

ACTING SUB-COLLECTOR OF NASIK.

Submitted to Government on the 16*th October* 1854.

PENTH ESTATE.

I.—The last Chief of Penth, Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao III., died in A. D. 1837, leaving only a legitimate daughter, named Noor Jehan, now* aged about thirty-four years, and who has the title of Begum. The Penth Principality had thus become an escheat, Mahomedan law and usage being against the daughter of a Mahomedan Chief succeeding to such a Government. But Government wished to restore the principality, after obtaining for the Begum a husband befitting in position and character, and qualified to have the territory and its inhabitants confided to his administration. This project was, however, frustrated by the Begum having lost her eyesight from small-pox, and her becoming the mother of some illegitimate children. Government have allowed her a pension for her life, equal to two-thirds of the net revenue of the estate, which is continued under the charge and administration of Government. The late Chief, Luxdeer Dulput Rao, had a younger brother, Dowlut Rao, who died before him, leaving a widow, Soorujkoowur, who now enjoys, as a provision, a village in the principality, and some petty sources of revenue.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

In paragraphs 3 and 4 of his report dated the 21st September 1839, regarding the succession to the Penth Estate, Mr. Goldsmid wrote:—"The late Raja, Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao III., was descended from the house of Powar, a member of which, on being appointed manager of the villages now composing the Principality of Penth, and then forming part of the possessions of the Raja of Buglana, exchanged his family name of Powar for that of Dulwee. A descendant of this Dulwee, with some of his relatives, were taken prisoners by order of Aurungzeeb, and conveyed to Delhi, where for some offence, the nature and particulars of which are unknown, they were sentenced to death; but whilst in confinement, awaiting the execution of their sentence, one of the prisoners rendered most acceptable service, by curing the Emperor's daughter of the asthma; and consequently not only obtained a remission of past offences, but, on the prisoners embracing the religion of Mahomed, the Penth district was conferred on them in Sahnak.

"Sahnak, the original tenure, corresponds with personal Surinjam or Jageer. The first Chief was Luxdeer Dulput Rao, who took the title of Abdool Momin, and from whom the late Chief Luxdeer Dulput Rao III. was fourth in descent, or great great-grandson. The Sahnak or Jageer continuing to be hereditarily

* A. D. 1854.

enjoyed, was thus regarded by the Peshwa's Government as a Suwusthan or chiefship, which, though subordinate and tributary, had acquired more or less of independent authority."

In Soor Sun 1179 (A. D. 1778-79) the Suwusthan was attached by the Peshwa, and the Chief, Chimnajee Dulput Rao, put into confinement, as having violated his agreement mortgaging his estate to Dhondo Mahadeo, the Peshwa's Komavisdar at Nasik. In A. D. 1790-91 the Peshwa, conditionally on the Chief Chimnajee paying by nine yearly instalments the debt incurred to Dhondo Mahadeo, and a Nuzur of Rs. 1,25,000, restored to him his Suwusthan, but reserved Fort Khyraee, with its Surinjam of villages in Hursool, yielding Rs. 5,000 annually. In Soor Sun 1200 (A. D. 1799), when by the stipulations the claim of Rs. 1,75,000 should have been liquidated, the Suwusthan was again put by the Peshwa under attachment, which lasted till the Peshwa's downfall. The ex-Chief, Luxdeer Dulput Rao III., having, however, rendered assistance in A. D. 1818 to Captain Briggs, on his advance with a force to Trimbuk, and as there were no preponderating advantages to compensate for taking the Penth territory, but, on the contrary, it rather appeared politic to waive Government's right with a view to secure the Chief's assistance in maintaining tranquillity in his hilly country, the Honorable Mounstuart Elphinstone confirmed the restoration of the principality to the said Chief.

Usual Place of Residence.

II.—The late Chief, Luxdeer Dulput Rao, used to reside at the town of Penth; the Begum generally lives at Nasik.

Names and Ages of Legitimate Male Issue.

III.—There is no legitimate male issue, the Begum being, as before said, unmarried.

Whether Tributary or not; if so, to whom, and Annual Amount of Tribute.

IV.—The late Chief, Luxdeer Dulput Rao, used to make to the British Government, as his ancestors did to the Peshwas, an annual tributary payment of Surdeshmookee and Mokassa, amounting to Rs. 3,500, which tribute is now annually levied and credited to Government at the rate of exchange in Company's rupees.

Estimated Gross Annual Revenue.

V.—The gross revenue of the Suwusthan for the year A. D. 1852-53 was Rs. 34,044-10-8.

Boundaries of Territory, and Estimated Area in Square Miles.

VI.—The Penth Principality is bounded on the north by the territory of the Soolgana Chief; to the east by the Western Ghats and the Dindoree and Nasik Talookas; to the south by the Jowar Chief's territory, and the Kolwan Talooka of the Tanna Collectorate; and to the west by the Dhurumpoor Raja's country. Its estimated area is some eight hundred and fifty square miles.

Prevailing Nature of the Soil, usual Means of Irrigation, and general Features of the Country.

VII.—The features of the country present, as a bird's-eye view from the top of the Ghats, an inextricable maze of mountain and valley, diversified only by the terraced rice-lands in the valleys, and the brown naglee fields peering out from the otherwise unbroken monotony of trees

and grass. On closer inspection, however, the arrangement of the hills becomes apparent. One range, projecting from the Ghats towards the northern boundary of the principality, stretches away in a south-westerly direction to within twenty miles of the sea coast, dividing the valleys of the Damun and Par rivers. On this range, and the Ghats, the varied spurs arrange themselves as on a back-bone, forming at their head those deep ravines from which the best timber is procured; and, as they gradually subside, forming the low lands on which the rice-lands are situated. The cultivated plains are of limited extent, from the hills that cross and bound them, and the dense jungles, which also occupy both valleys and ravines. The physical aspect of the country is of course more strong and irregular as the Western Ghâts are approached. The forests occupy the sides of the hills, and the gorges and ravines between them. The principal rivers traversing the Penth district are the Damungunga, and the Par and Nar, fed by minor tributary mountain streams. The water-shed is of course to the coast. How far the declination from the Ghats to the coast is gradual or the reverse it would be desirable to know, as also how the whole fall of the rivers is distributed, the fall in parts of their courses being considerable. Looking to their general features, the Ghats we have to consider may perhaps be assumed to be about the same height (that is regarding the table-land). For instance, the Sawul Ghat may not be many feet higher than the Sutee and Thul Ghats, *i. e.* perhaps a little more than two thousand feet above the level of the sea. Hursool may be about eleven or twelve hundred feet below the Sutee Ghat; and the remainder of the fall may probably be mostly within the next twenty-five or thirty miles coastwards, or nearly terminate with the zone intervening between the Ghat belt and the third zone, extending to the coast; for the effect of the tides is understood to extend far inland. The Sawul Ghat and Penth may be nearly the same level. There must be a very great fall in the country towards the Sutee Ghat. This is the course of the Damungunga river till it deflects in a rather north-westerly direction, towards the coast, when it becomes the drainage line of the country to a considerable distance southward.

The foregoing sketch of the hilly, jungly, and forest character of the Penth district, receives the following confirmation:—From the Kumal rental of the Suwusthan when under attachment by the Peshwa, ascertained from the Poona Duftur, the culturable area was roughly estimated to have been 96,550 beegas, of which 33,490 were cultivated at the introduction of the leasing system in A. D. 1849; 29,060 were lying fallow; and 34,000 were uncultivated, for want of cultivators. But the area of Penth is eight hundred and fifty square miles, or 544,000 acres. If five hundred culturable acres to a square mile be taken as a fair average proportion, extending over many territories, it gives 425,000 acres; or if the unculturable area be taken at one-third, there will be a corresponding decrease. But the difference between the above and 96,550 beegas has to be accounted for by the mountains and jungles, and the extensive forests, the valuable timber of which is subject of comparison with the value of agricultural occupation of the same area.

Prevailing Nature of the Soil.

In soil, Penth seems to unite in a measure the character of the Deccan and Konkun. Black alluvial soil prevails in it near the courses of rivers, and in the culturable plains and low grounds, and also in hollows or basins; it being observable, too, that it is deeper in the middle than the sides of the basins. This black soil is a deep absorbent, and is most probably a vegetable mould, from the more luxuriant vegetation in it. The red soil prevails in Penth nearer the Ghats, and the hills generally, the plains being of the soil of the neighbouring hills mouldered away and washed down. A mixed soil, intermediate to the black and red, is also found in a middle range. The red soil of Penth, like that of the Konkun, is cohesive, and has much inherent moisture. In the South Konkun sugarcane grows in it without irrigation, as also shel or rice plants, before the setting in of the monsoon, and also plantains in the upper country, or that rising towards the Sahyadree, as distinguished from the lower, or that descending from the range to the coast. Good eatable plantains are also raised in Penth without irrigation, and doubtless so might sugarcane be. How far the red soil of Penth is similar or different to that of the Konkun perhaps remains to be ascertained: it is understood to be decomposed trap, whereas in the South Konkun it is decomposed laterite, but in the North Konkun it is understood to be ironstone trap. As to the cultivation in the soils of Penth, there is the rice cultivation, the Kalee or black soil for the superior dry crops, the Mal or Khureef in the comparatively less culturable plains, and the Dullee or patches of cultivation on the hill sides, prepared by clearing with the bill-hook, and burning for Khureef crops, naglee, wuraee, sowa, &c.

Usual Means of Irrigation.

Hitherto irrigation does not appear to have been thought of in the Penth district. The population is wild, uncivilized, ignorant, and superstitious in the extreme, and of migratory and dissipated habits. The cultivators generally do not dream of advancing their condition, but merely of subsisting themselves and their families. Though there is much land suited to raising late or Rubee crops, they have mostly to learn to superadd the Rubee cultivation to that of Khureef or early crops, to which alone they are mostly accustomed. Irrigation and steady cultivation throughout the year have, however, to be mainly looked to, to bring about the desired amelioration of their unsettled habits, and their general condition and character. The fall of the rivers traversing the principality will probably be found considerable, as also the depth of their beds below the plains, so that they may not afford facilities for irrigation. These points do not, however, appear to have been demonstrated by sets of levels having been taken between the rivers and their valleys, as in this Ghat district long lateral spurs intersect inclining valleys. There would, however, seem to be particular facilities for irrigation by bunds and tank embankments, with serviceable Pats to lead off the water to the "succession of terraces into which the slope would be divided": a fair return might thus be promised (even if the

irrigated area below the bund were limited) wherever cheap and rude construction might ensure efficiency and security. (Vide "Mackay's Western India," and Colonel Dixon's "Sketch of Mairwara.")

For these irrigation works to be made, there must, however, be a sufficient population to fully reap the benefits from them. And here it may be important to notice what would seem to have hitherto been somewhat overlooked, viz. that of the scanty population of the principality, perhaps not one-fifth is engaged in agriculture; so that the number of cultivators might be greatly increased, both from Penth itself and the adjoining territories of the Dhurumpoor and Soolgana Chiefs, when irrigation should hold out the prospect of securing to them a plentiful subsistence, that would not be precarious, but certain. Whatever fostering measures we may take to settle on the soil as steady cultivators throughout the year the wild inhabitants of Penth, and to improve their general condition, habits, and character, will operate beneficially beyond Penth; so that the Dhurumpoor and Soolgana Chiefs may either be forced to put their Ryuts on something like an equality as to happiness of condition, or submit to their territories being denuded, by attraction and desertion of their Ryuts to Penth. I am told the Ryuts are very badly off in Dhurumpoor, owing to the farming system prevailing, under which the Raja presses hard upon the farmers, who in their turn oppress the Ryuts.

The rice cultivation, though the Koonbees in several villages of Purguna Hursool understand it, is elsewhere very imperfect and slovenly, the required embankments not being made. The cultivation requires warmth of climate, and that the rice-land can be levelled into terraces. The extension and improvement (by instruction) of this valuable cultivation, towards which irrigation would be a powerful auxiliary, would serve towards permanently settling the cultivators, and ameliorating their condition. Sugarcane, too, might be extensively cultivated in the rich soil by the better classes of cultivators having some little capital; and one stimulus to raising this and other valuable Bagayet products, instead of mere production of food, will be afforded when a road all the way to Dhanoo shall connect Penth and Nasik with the coast. And if by irrigation the Penth people themselves raised the articles of garden produce (onions, chillies, &c.) they require for food, instead of entirely depending for them, as at present, upon the traders resorting from Nasik, Dindoree, and Wunn, to the bazars at Hursool, Penth, Barey, and Mallegaon, they would be greatly benefited. They would more fully enjoy the fruits of their own industry; they would save the transit duty now paid on the garden produce brought into Penth for their consumption, and the further loss they now invariably sustain in their barter, from the traders of other districts of course taking advantage of them as more simple and ignorant than themselves.

VIII.—Natural Resources.—In Penth the following trees and plants are found, either ornamental or useful, for timber, food, medicinal purposes, gums, oils, or other products applied in arts and trades. The description of these products of the vegetable

Natural and Industrial Resources.

kingdom, and their uses, is nearly all taken from the best authorities, viz. Drs. Gibson, Murray, Royle, O'Shaughnessy, and Spry; also Mr. Elphinstone and Mr. Walter Hamilton. In quoting from them I have used very much their own words.

Siswa (शिसवा); Blackwood *(Dalbergia sissoo* or *latifolia).*—The timber of this tree is most valuable, and extensively used; is a beautiful cabinet wood, a strong timber for ships' knees, and for carriages of heavy ordnance. A staple of commerce worthy of extension. A slower growing wood than teak; found frequently on the Ghats. Oil obtained from the wood.

Teewus (तिवस).—Timber of much value to the husbandman. Is tough, and affords good wood for knees of ships. From its pliability, can encounter strains; therefore useful for carts, shafts, yokes of ploughs, &c.

Kulumba (कळंब); *Nauclea cadamba.*—A tree important in the arts; used for various purposes connected with gunnery.

Jambool (जांबुळ); *Calyptranthes caryophyllifolia* or *jambolana.*—Shady and ornamental; produces a fruit of a dark purple colour. Common also at Mahableshwur, on the table-land.

Oombur (उंबर); *Ficus glomerata.*—Shady and ornamental; the water-tree of the Natives. Found also at Mahableshwur almost as large as in the low rich lands of the Konkun.

Pimpul (पिंपळ); *Ficus religiosa.*—So well known as to require little remark. Its leaves and tender branches favourite food for camels and elephants. Lac, the produce of the lac insect *(Coccus lacca)* on the branches of the Pimpul.

Wud (वड); *Ficus Indica.*—So well known as to require little remark. Branches and leaves favourite food of elephants. The descending roots may be used as ropes. Caoutchouc or Indian rubber may be got from the juice discharged on incision in the bark. Its leaves are sewn together, and used by Hindoos for plates.

Moho (मोहो); *Bassia latifolia.*—A timber tree of the size of an oak. Its timber excellent; a strong wood for beams of houses. Affords a fleshy flower, important as an article of food. Its flowers yield by distillation an intoxicating spirit. Oil is expressed from the seeds.

Kudoo Nimb (कडूनिंब); *Melia azadirachta.*—Affords timber. Is a bread tree; affords a clear bitter oil, used for burning, and medicinally as liniment; trunk yields gum; leaves used for poultices; bark bitter and astringent.

Pullus (पळस); *Butea frondosa.*—An ornamental and useful tree, having bright scarlet flowers. Affords timber; its flowers give a fine yellow dye; bark affords kino, as an astringent for tanning; its leaves used by Hindoos for plates.

Bahawa (बाहावा); *Cassia fistula.*—Bark useful for curing leather; a medicinal plant; pulp made into many pharmaceutical preparations; leaves and seeds used medicinally. The tree has large, bright yellow, and fragrant flowers.

Pimpree (पिंपरी); *Hibiscus populneoides.*—An ornamental and useful tree. Gamboge said to be procurable from its seed; its juice and bark used medicinally.

Sagwan (सागवान); Teak *(Tectoris grandis)*.—So well known, for its uses for ship-building and other multifarious purposes, as to require little remark. Finest teak in Penth in the Barey Purguna; finer in the black than in the red soil of Penth; fineness of Malabar teak likewise attributed by Dr. Royle to its growing on alluvial soil.

Sadur or *Din* (सादडा); *Pentaptera tomentosa*.—Affords timber for house-building; less sought after than teak, its greater weight rendering it more difficult to be dragged or carted in logs of any size.

Hed or *Hedoo* (हेद).—Molesworth's Dictionary calls this tree *Swietenia chloroxylon*, and the satin-wood tree. Dr. Gibson calls it *Nawelia parviflor*. Dr. Spry, in his work, notices the *Chloroxylon swietenia* as a very valuable tree.

Khair (खैर); *Mimosa*, or *Acacia catechu*.—From the root and leaves of this tree the extract called Kath (Catechu, or *Terra Japonica*) is prepared. Catechu, a material for tanning leather; used medicinally as an astringent and tonic.

Bor (बोर); *Zizyphus jujuba*.—Affords a large and pleasant fruit; bark and root used medicinally; its timber used for building.

Phunnus (फणस); Jack Tree *(Artocarpus integrifolia)*.—The finest of the Indian bread-fruit trees, the fruit growing to a great weight from the trunk. Yields a useful and ornamental timber, given to warping with heat, but in general demand for cabinet-work. Caoutchouc or Indian rubber may be got from the juice discharged on incision in the bark.

Amba (आंबा); Mango Tree.—Requires no remark.

Waloo (वेळू); Bamboo.—Very fine bamboos grow in Penth. The uses of this woody plant in houses, furniture, boats, and for implements of agriculture, lances, tent poles, scaffolding, rafters for cottages, baskets, mats, &c. are commonly known.

Nandoorhee (नांदुरकी); *Ficus nitida*.—The *Ficus nitida* is very generally planted at villages, to the exclusion of the *Ficus Indica* or Wud.

Heerda (हीरडा); Chebulic myrobalan *(Terminalia chebula)*.—Useful for dyeing and medicinal purposes; Dr. Gibson calls it *Terminalia belerica*. Its fruit extensively used in curing and blackening leather; its bark abounding in gum.

Bukool (बकुळ); *Mimusops elengi*.—Fruit good; wood useful.

Auvla (आवळी); Emblic myrobalan *(Phyllanthus emblica)*.—Its fruit a good article of food, as a pickle and preserve; its wood useful; bark strongly astringent, used for tanning, and medicinally; its flowers of a greenish yellow.

Champa (चांपा); *Michelia champaca*.—An ornamental tree, with fragrant flowers; bark bitter, used medicinally.

Bhootkes (भुतकस); *Carydalio govaniana*.—Its roots are used medicinally.

Other trees, said to be common in Penth, are Temboornee *(Dyospyros glutinosa)*, Payur (a tree of the genus *Ficus*), Khankud, Kandhool, Alvin,

Dahiwud, Dhamada, and Bondare; but no sufficient information is at present readily forthcoming as to their importance, either for use or ornament.

The following brief imperfect enumeration may perhaps serve as regards the animal kingdom in Penth:—The domesticated animals are the ox, buffalo, and goat. The wild carniverous animals of the cat genus are tigers, leopards, panthers, and wild cats; and of the dog tribe, wolves, hyenas, and jackals. The fur-bearing animals not already noted are bears, foxes, hares, squirrels, bandicoots, and musk-rats. Other wild animals are the wild boar, elk, deer, and antelope. The mungoose (ichneumon) is also common. Apes and monkeys also abound. The aquatic birds are herons, and various kinds of water-fowl. The birds of prey are cormorants, vultures, owls, hawks, and kites. Of gallinaceous birds, there are the domestic fowl, and partridges and jungle-fowl. Of plumaged birds, there are peacocks, parrots, and paroquets, and the blue jay (*Coracia Indica*). Other birds are the common mina, and the songster Koila, or black Indian cuckoo. Bats (which are amongst the *Mammalia*), cobras, and water-snakes, rats and mice (*Rodentia*), lizards, chameleons, and the worst kind of scorpions, also abound.

Industrial Resources.—A considerable portion of the population is engaged in agriculture. The Toosar, or early Khureef crops, are Indian corn (*Zeamays*), so useful as food for man, and fodder for cattle; and Ooreed (*Phaseolus radiata*). The later Khureef crops are Naglee (*Cynosurus corocanus*), a poor grain; Rice, both transplanted and broadcast; Wuraee (*Panicum maliaceum*); Khoorasnee (*Vernonia anthelmintica*); Sawa (*Panicum frumentosum*); Toor (*Cytisus cajan*); Till (*Sesamum Orientale*), cultivated for the oil expressed from its seeds. The Rubee or late crops are Wheat; Gram (*Cicer arietinum*); Mussoor (*Cicer lens*); Wal (*Dolichos lablab*), elsewhere sown with sugarcane, and its leaves affording food for cattle; Wutana (*Pisum sativum*), sown amongst rice in the Konkun; Chowli (*Dolychos cajan*).

A good many cattle are reared in Penth by a tribe called Kanade, and by the people generally. Sheep are taken from Penth for sale, and ghee forms a considerable export. The other principal exports are timber of various kinds, including bamboos, rice, naglee, khoorasnee, catechu (extensively prepared in Penth, not, however, by its inhabitants, who have no manufactures at all that I can learn, but by foreign manufacturers), mowra flowers, oil seeds, heerda fruits for colouring; besides which honey, bees-wax, gum, elk-horn for medicinal purposes, hides, &c. are also exported. A stimulus to the timber trade of Penth with the Deccan would be given if the waters of the rivers could be applied as a motive force to drive saw-mills. Sawyers are here paid very highly for their work, whereas mills might work much cheaper, and the timber would of course cost less in transit if in planks than if in rough logs.

Routes, Approaches, and Means of Communication by Land and Water.

IX.—There are numerous Ghats in the portion of the Sahyadree Range bounding the Penth districts, of which the Sawul, Sutee, and Bunwur Ghats lead to Nasik and Ahmednuggur, Aurungabad and Khandesh. Besides the opening

of the Sawul Ghat, good roads have been made from thence to Penth and to Oomralla, about fourteen miles from Nasik, and Government have lately sanctioned a made road from Oomralla to Nasik. Six miles of road have to be constructed between Penth and Rajbaree, the boundary of the Dhurumpoor Raja's territory, to complete the portion, within the Penth territory, of the Nasik and Bulsar line. This line will open up an important direct land communication between Penth, the Deccan, and Guzerat, by which the extent and value of the interchange of the Deccan raw produce and manufactures, the Penth raw produce, and Guzerat salt, &c. will be greatly increased. But as the communication in and with Penth will be only partially opened up by this line from Nasik *viâ* Oomralla and the Sawul Ghat to Penth and onwards, through the Dhurumpoor Raja's territory to Bulsar, it is under Government's consideration to apply the available surplus revenues of Penth to opening the Sutee Ghat, constructing a good road for the whole distance to Nasik (to connect Nasik and Hursool), and also cross-roads from Hursool, one to Penth and another to the Jowar Chief's frontier. This would afford an outlet for the timber of the central and western portions of the Penth country, and of the Jowar Chief's territory, would thoroughly open the Penth country, and also advantage our Ryuts, &c. by the plentiful supply of materials for building and carpentering, at a cheaper rate from the cost of transit saved. Timber is in the rainy season floated down the Damungunga to Damaun; the Deccan is, however, the principal market for the timber, &c. of the Penth forests. The Penth district will probably ere long be connected with the Bombay road by a road striking off some four or five miles from the Sawul Ghat, through the Wunn Dindoree Talooka.

Climate, and Average Range of the Thermometer.

X.—As might be mostly expected, from the sketch already given of the general features of the Penth country, the climate is very unhealthy. It combines the extremes of heat and cold, and may be most comprehensively characterised as malarious, for certainly most of the circumstances productive of malaria, excepting marshes, unite here. The heavy rain in so densely wooded a district causes a damp and stagnant atmosphere. The exhalations from the Ghats may be prejudicial to some distance below. The dense jungles and forests afford a constant supply of decaying vegetable and animal matter, heat and moisture co-operating towards its generation and decomposition. The black alluvial soil, very retentive of moisture, is considered an auxiliary to the production of malaria. The exhalations from all these causes become more noxious when their density is increased by combination with atmospheric moisture, and by want of ventilation, as in the jungles, forests, and ravines, and in the valleys and low situations pent up between the numerous hills. The country may perhaps in the course of time become more healthy. The various lines of road it is proposed to commence or complete would somewhat open it to ventilation by the prevailing winds. The traffic or the communication being thus thoroughly opened up, would create a demand for grass, fire-

wood, and other supplies, for which the jungles would have to be indented on, or reclaimed for cultivation. Such a salutary change the opening up the communication by the Thul Ghat has, I believe, wrought in the Kolwan Talooka of the Tanna Collectorate, which not many years ago had, I remember, as bad a character for unhealthiness as Penth now has. The temperature in Penth not having been continuously observed, as the visits of European Officers have been short visits of only a few days twice a year, I regret I cannot give the average range of the thermometer.

Average Annual Fall of Rain.

XI.—If the pluviometrical registers were correctly kept by the Mamlutdar, the fall of rain last year (1853-54, considerably below an average year) was 88 inches 54 cents. The average annual fall may, it would seem, be safely estimated at from 120 to 130 inches.

Estimated Population.

XII.—The population to a square mile cannot be given with any certainty, no census having been ever taken. The best estimate I can give, after somewhat careful inquiry, is that, including men, women, and children, the whole population of Penth is somewhat under twenty thousand. Less than one-sixth of the total population is said to be engaged in agriculture. The scanty population is thus utterly inadequate to develope the country's resources, considering the great disproportion as already shown which exists between the cultivated and the entire culturable area. The inhabitants of the Penth territory are very much addicted to drinking: their intemperate habits and the insalubrity of the climate are thus both against the increase of population.

Religion, Language, Tribes, and Castes.

XIII.—The religious persuasions found in Penth are the Mahomedan and Hindoo. The language spoken is Murathee, much intermixed with foreign words, mostly Guzerathee. The population consists of Mahomedans, Lingayets, Murathas, Koonbees, Thakoors, Warlees, and Kolees. In Purguna Hursool, the soil of which is the best in the principality, the Koonbees may be about seven-sixteenths, the Kolees and Warlees each one-fourth, and the Thakoors one-sixteenth. In Purguna Penth about one-half are Warlees, and the Koonbees and Kolees each one-fourth. In Purguna Barey about three-fourths are Kolees, one-eighth Koonbees, and one-eighth Warlees; and in Purguna Mallegaon about three-eighths are Koonbees, and the remainder Kolees and Warlees in equal numbers. There is also a tribe in Penth called Kanadas, who are extensive rearers of cattle.

In character the Penth people are wild, timid, and inoffensive (as shown by the great infrequency of crime), though much addicted to drinking. They have a certain activity and intelligence in their accustomed range, but their ignorance and superstition are so great that improvement and advancement must be a work of time and labour. To show how prejudicial superstition is to their interests, whole villages are not unfrequently deserted from a belief in witchcraft.

XIV.—Government's letter in the Political Department, dated 15th June 1838, No. 1131, furnishes the following rules for carrying on this important branch of Government. The whole administration is considered under the Sub-Collector as political officer. He may apply the principles of the Bombay Regulations generally, it being left to his discretion to deviate from them when considered inapplicable to the management, or at variance with local rules, unobjectionable to continue in force. For the administration of criminal justice, the Mamlutdar, or Native manager of the district, is vested by Government with the power and authority given by the Bombay Regulations to a Mamlutdar as district police officer. The police is managed by the village officers, to whom all due auxiliary means formerly adopted, and now available for rendering it efficient, are afforded. Cases beyond the manager's authority are tried by the Sub-Collector as political officer, the powers vested in him by Government being those of a Session Judge. Thus capital sentences, or sentences to more than seven years' imprisonment, are referred for the confirmation of Government. In capital cases, the Sub-Collector, as political officer, sits with three assessors, who give their opinions, which are recorded, but not their vote, judgment resting with the presiding authority. The Sub-Collector, as political officer, holds a half-yearly sessions in Penth. In all important cases, complete proceedings are kept, to be submitted to Government, when called for, for review and confirmation. In the administration of civil justice, the parties are always in the first instance referred to a Punchayet, from whose award, when this mode of adjudication is agreed to, there is no appeal. If the parties will not agree to refer their dispute to a Punchayet, the Sub-Collector, as political officer, appoints three arbitrators to try and decide the case, their decision being appealable to him.

Mode in which Civil and Criminal Justice are Administered.

As regards the relative jurisdiction of the civil courts of Penth and the Company's territories, the practice has not hitherto been to enforce the decrees of the Company's courts in Penth as a Jageer, Penth having been hitherto regarded as a principality, with absolute sovereignty, precluding extra-territorial extension to it of foreign process, as a mere nullity, except when executed *ex comitate*, and it does not appear to have ever been so executed.

Of the several jurisdictions the civil courts of Penth and the Company's territory may hold relatively to each other, as either the *forum contractus, forum rei sitoe*, or *forum domicilie*, the simple rule observed is, that without interference a preference (which private interests are left to decide) is given to that jurisdiction which can best answer the ends of justice by enforcing its decree against defendant's person and property. And as regards the relation of Vukeel and suitor, as to Vukalut remuneration, though Vukeels may of course under certain circumstances be entitled to rewards over and above the prescribed fees, yet, adverting to the causes which led to their nomination by Sunuds in Penth, bonds for such rewards are dealt with according to equity;

and Vukeels, when detected, are not allowed to exact with impunity bonds for unreasonable sums.

Nature of Punishments awarded for Criminal Offences.

XV.—Conformably to Government's letter in the Political Department, dated the 15th June 1838, No. 1131, the Company's Regulations in force under this Presidency form the guide of the Sub-Collector, as political officer, and, in awarding punishment, Regulation XIV. of 1827 is followed by him, in the same manner as is done by the Judges in our own territory.

Educational Measures.

XVI.—The Sub-Collector, Mr. Jenkins, established a school at Penth, which became a Government school by Government sanctioning its support from the Penth revenues, which the Honorable Court of Directors approved in their despatch No. 44, dated 10th August 1853. Considering this is only the first stone laid of the edifice, that only the inhabitants of Penth and its immediate vicinity could in general benefit thereby, the desirableness of education being more generally diffused throughout the Penth country, that as the communication became opened up between Penth, the Deccan, and Guzerat, an important traffic would arise, their interests and advantages, in which the wild and uncivilized inhabitants of Penth would be more likely to understand and profit by, in proportion to the steps taken *in limine* to give them some education, and specially considering the surplus revenues of Penth, it was proposed to establish a school in each of the principal stations of the Purgunas (Penth, Hursool, Mallegaon, and Barey) of the principality, viz. Hursool, Barey, Khuddukwohol, Pulsun, Munkhed, Mallegaon, and Kuraiyalee. Government sanctioned the establishment of these schools, and of their expenses being defrayed from the Penth revenues. The Board of Education, on Government's direction to apply to the Board for qualified schoolmasters, and to fix the amount of their salaries, furnished the schoolmasters on a salary of Rs. 12 each per mensem, and they are now commencing work.

Progress of Vaccination.

XVII.—It was not till Government in its recent printed instructions evinced its anxious interest in vaccination, that the subject of its introduction into Penth came to be considered. The whole immediate prospect of good from vaccination in Penth is limited to the benefits expectable from the sanctioned appointment of one Native vaccinator to labour in the field.

Prevalent Diseases.

XVIII.—The most prevalent diseases are just what might be expected from the malarious characteristics of the country, already noticed in a previous portion of these notes, treating of the climate, viz. fever and dysentery. Guinea-worm is also very common. The prevalence of these diseases is clearly established, though the information available is not of the detailed and precise nature desirable, which, when it shall be gained, I have no doubt will show, not only that the fevers are of various characters and degrees of malignity, but also that disorders of the spleen and liver are very general. The intemperate habits of the people, bad food,

and scanty clothing, are doubtless predisposing causes, co-operating with the malarious climate in producing disease, particularly dysentery. The number of wells in the Penth country is very few, so that the people commonly drink from springs, which must be rendered impure, and be deleteriously affected by the roots of plants, and the decayed vegetable matter in so jungly a country. This may be one direct cause of both dysentery and guinea-worm. Wells for drinking water might be sunk in the hollows, care and judgment being however required to select the sites; and perhaps some means may be devised by which the manufacture of very cheap and warm black kumblees may put this comfortable article of clothing within the reach of the mass of the poor population of Penth, to protect them from exposure to cold and damp. It may be worthy of notice that cholera rages with more than ordinary violence in the Penth country, which would seem to confirm the belief that malaria directly co-operates with the other causes of cholera, and that the people may be predisposed to cholera from nervous debility, caused both by climate, poverty, and intemperance.

PROCEEDINGS

CONNECTED WITH THE

QUESTION OF SUCCESSION TO THE PENTH ESTATE,

IN CONSEQUENCE OF

THE DEATH, IN THE YEAR 1837, WITHOUT MALE ISSUE,

OF

DULPUT RAO, RAJA OF THAT ESTATE.

SUCCESSION TO THE PENTH ESTATE.

From H. E. GOLDSMID, Esq.,
Superintendent Revenue Survey, Nasik District,

To the SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, Bombay.

Dated 21st September 1839.

SIR,—I will trouble you neither with a detail of the numerous causes which have delayed its transmission, nor with apologies for its many defects, but at once proceed to submit my long promised report on the several points regarding which Government require information, previous to deciding on the right of succession to the Penth territories.

2. The following is the order in which I propose to consider the subject of which I am treating :—

1*st.**—The validity of the title by which the principality was held by the *family* of the late Raja, Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao III.

2*nd.*—The claims set forth by different parties to succeed the late Raja in his possessions.

3*rd.*—The most eligible mode of provision for the rejected claimants.

4*th.*—The right of exacting Nuzurana from the party to whom the succession may be adjudged.

5*th.*—The extent to which the British Government can exercise its right of interference.

THE VALIDITY OF THE TITLE BY WHICH THE PRINCIPALITY WAS HELD BY THE FAMILY OF THE LATE RAJA.

3. The late Raja, Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao III., was descended from the house of Powar, a member of which, on being appointed manager of the villages *now* composing the Principality of Penth, and then forming part of the possessions of the Raja of Buglana, exchanged his family name of Powar for that of Dulwee.†

4. A descendant of this Dulwee, with some of his relations (the *number* of which forms the point in dispute between the present claimants, but does not

* I should not have deemed it necessary to touch upon this question had it not been brought on the *tapis* by Sir Robert Arbuthnot, in his letter to Mr. Harrison of the 20th November last, No. 219.

† A name formerly given, in Buglana, to those performing the duties of Komavisdar.

affect the subject under immediate discussion), were taken prisoners by order of Aurungzeeb, and conveyed to Delhi, where for some offence,* the nature and particulars of which are unknown, they were sentenced to death; but while in confinement, awaiting the execution of their sentence, one of the prisoners rendered most acceptable service, by curing the Emperor's daughter of the asthma; and consequently not only obtained a remission for past offences, but, on the prisoners embracing the religion of Mahomed, the Penth district was conferred on them in Sahnak.†

5. All parties agree in stating, that about two hundred years have elapsed since the principality was conferred on the family of the late Raja, and although the only information obtainable on this point is traditional, still I am of opinion that the period quoted is most probably correct; for it appears from the journal of a London merchant‡ travelling through the province in A. D. 1610, that after beleaguering for many a year the strong fortresses of Salheir and Moolheir, the Mogul Emperor was obliged to compound with and secure the good offices of the Buglana Raja, by giving him additional lands and forts. It is not therefore to be supposed that up to the commencement of the seventeenth century, the Emperor had ventured to deprive Purtab Shah§ of so important a part of his possessions as Penth; nor, even if he had, that it would have been long before that powerful Chief recovered the district from the comparatively weak hands of his former Dulwee. Moreover, it appears that Shah Jehan's third son,‖ the prince who, as has been already shown, directed the seizure of the Dulwees, was considered as too young to be entrusted with the conduct of public affairs until after the peace of 1636,¶ when, we are informed by Grant Duff,** "the Prince Aurungzeeb was appointed Viceroy of the Mogul possessions in the Deccan, and effected the conquest of Buglana, a great part of which was, however, subsequently relinquished."

* Nilkunt Rao alleges that it was the rebellious conduct of Luxdeer, the person from whom the present Mahomedan claimants are lineally descended, which led to the Dulwees being made prisoners, and sentenced to death; and that Shaikh Munsoor, the officer sent by Aurungzeeb, was three years at Penth before he could lay hands on Luxdeer, and then only effected his purpose by stratagem. The foundation of the fort, which it is stated this officer constructed for the safety of his followers whilst besieging Penth, is still standing, and the site is to this day known to the common people by the name of Munsoor Ghuree; which circumstance gives the semblance of truth to what is alleged by Nilkunt Rao.

† Literally a dish; figuratively a patrimony, a grant of lands, &c., viewed as one's *dish*, or means of subsistence.—*Molesworth.*

‡ Mr. Finch, who arrived at Badur on the 25th January 1610. His Journal is inserted amongst the early voyages to India collected by Ker, Vol. VIII.

§ The name of the Raja of Buglana, who was in power at the commencement of the sevententh century, as appears from Mr. Finch's Journal, as well as a Sunud in my possession conferring the office of Josee on a Brahmin of the name of Pelum Bhut, and dated in the thirty-ninth year of the Hindoo cycle (A. D. 1605).

‖ Aurungzeeb. ¶ The peace declared between the Mogul and Beejapoor Governments.

** History of the Murathas, Vol. I. p. 25.

6. I am therefore of opinion that Aurungzeeb seized upon the rebellious Dulwees of Penth, and formed the district into a separate principality, shortly after effecting the conquest of the province in which it was situated ;* and this opinion is strengthened by the circumstance of no further mention being made of either Purtab Shah, his successor Bhairam Shah,† or any other Raja of Buglana, in the annals of Maharashtra, and our being able to glean, from the history of the times, that the two most important fortresses occupied by that chieftain, viz. Salheir and Moolheir, must have fallen, either at or shortly after the period of the conquest, into other hands.

7. It does not appear that either the Mogul or Muratha Government interfered with the principality until about the year A. D. 1778, when the reigning Raja, Chimnajee Dulput Rao, endeavoured, in the most contumacious and unjustifiable manner, to break through the terms of an agreement by which he had mortgaged his estate to Dhondo Mahadeo, the Peshwa's Komavisdar at Nasik.

8. Chimnajee was consequently placed in confinement, and his district attached. After an interval of twelve years (A. D. 1790), the Peshwa determined on retaining in his own hands the fort of Khyraee, with an assignment for its support of nineteen villages,‡ rated at Rs. 5,000, and consented to restore the rest of the estate to the Raja, on condition that he paid up, by nine yearly instalments, the amount of the debt incurred to Dhondo Mahadeo, together with a heavy sum as Nuzurana to Government.§

* Aurungzeeb was *twice* appointed Viceroy,—once shortly after the peace of A. D. 1636, on the Emperor's possessions in the Deccan being united under one government, and the second time in A. D. 1650. As Buglana was seized by the Moguls during the Prince's first administration, which continued but for a very short period, it follows that the conquest of the province must have been effected about two hundred years since.

† I have by me a Sunud dated Boodwar, Poush Shood 8th, Shuké 1557 (A. D. 1635), in which Bhairam Shah Raja confers as much land, belonging to Kusba Kunasee, of the Buglan Prant, as can be cultivated with one plough, and a well situated therein, on a Brahmin named Moor Josee.

‡ These villages were not retained by the British Government when the district was restored to the Raja in A. D. 1818 (vide paragraphs 13 and 15); they only yielded a revenue last season of Rs. 1,700-10-9.

§ The following is the exact amount, as extracted from the Peshwa's order to Dhondo Mahadeo, recorded in the Poona Duftur, and dated 2nd of Rujub, 1200 Fuslee (9th March A. D. 1790) :—

To be paid by nine yearly instalments as Nuzurana to Government .....Rs.	1,25,000
Interest on the same, in consequence of its being paid up by instalments ..	20,834
To be paid by nine yearly instalments, on account of debt to Dhondeo Mahadeo	25,000
Interest on the same, in consequence of its being paid up by instalments ..	4,166
Total....Rs.	1,75,000

The above to be liquidated by eight yearly instalments of Rs. 20,000, and one of Rs. 15,000.

As the Government share of Rs. 1,75,000 was transferred to Dhondo Mahadeo in clearance of a debt due to him by the Peshwa, reference to the Poona accounts does not show whether Chimnajee fulfilled the terms of his agreement. I learn, however, from an old

9. Six years subsequent to the restoration of his estate, thus burdened, Chimnajee died, leaving two widows, one of whom, named Rajkoorbaee, with her adopted son, Luxdeer III., continued in possession, for a year or two, at the expiration of which the district was, consequent on the occurrence of a very serious disturbance, again placed under an Agent of the Peshwa.

10. It would appear that the disturbance in question originated by Heemut Sing,* the son of a person claiming a share of the principality, having endeavoured to enforce compliance with his demands by marching into the district with a body of men, obtained from his brother-in-law, the renowned Manojee Phakray,† and occupying the small mud fort at Penth. A party of Sebundees sent by Pandoorung Dhonjee,‡ to the assistance of the Mahomedan Raja, surrounded and burnt down the fort, from which Heemut Sing was with great difficulty rescued, the principal part of his followers being destroyed by the flames.

11. A portion of the sequestered revenues was assigned for the support of the deposed Raja and his Muratha rival. The Begum states that her ancestor received Rs. 2,800, and the Hindoo Rs. 1,200 per annum; whilst Nilkunt Rao asserts that his allowance was fixed at Rs. 1,500, and Luxdeer's at Rs. 2,500. No mention is made in the Poona records as to the amount which Bajee Rao may have *engaged* to pay; but it may be seen from some old Taleebunds§ of the Penth district, discovered amongst the Peshwa's state papers, that the sums actually given as subsistence money, during eight of the twenty years the district remained under attachment, fell far short of the amount which either the Begum or Nilkunt Rao allege was received. The sums paid in 1805 correspond with those stated by Nilkunt Rao, and the accounts of the remaining eleven years are not forthcoming.‖

Karbaree of Dhondo Mahadeo, that unexceptionable security was taken from Chimnajee, and consequently the Subedar recovered the whole of the money; but that the security (Huree Pandoorung Garbe) lost two years' instalments, which have to the present day remained unpaid.

* Eldest brother of Nilkunt Rao, the present claimant.

† Vide paragraphs 26 and 32, clause 6.

‡ The Subedar of the Trimbuk Talooka, and son of Dhondo Mahadeo, mentioned in paragraph 7. In a petition to the Peshwa, Heemut Sing intimates Pandoorung's reason for sending Sebundees to the assistance of the Mahomedan was that he feared losing the instalments still remaining due on account of the Nuzurana, and the debt contracted to his father Dhondo Mahadeo.

§ Abstract account of receipts and disbursements.

‖ The following sums are entered in the Taleebunds as having been paid :—

A. D.	Mahomedan Claimant.	Rs.	a.	p.	Hindoo Claimant.	Rs.	a.	p.
1805	Luxdeer Dulput Rao.....	2,500	0	0	Bhow Sing (*b*) and Nilkunt Rao (*c*)	1,500	0	0
1806	Ditto ditto	1,736	7	3	Ditto ditto	981	7	0
1807	Abbajee Bhow (*a*)	1,041	6	6	Ditto ditto	1,346	14	3

(*a*) In a Taleebund in the possession of an old man at Nasik, who was Komavisdar of Penth during part of the time it was under attachment, I find Rs. 2,500 entered as payable in 1807 to Luxdeer Dulput Rao, and Rs. 1,500 to Bhow Sing and Nilkunt Rao.

(*b*) Heemut Sing's second brother.

(*c*) Heemut Sing's fourth or youngest brother.

12. In A. D. 1814 Rajkoorbaee raised some Sebundees, and with her son, Luxdeer III., made an ineffectual attempt to dispossess the Peshwa's officers of the district. The assailants were worsted by a detachment of Roopram Chowdree's men, who happened to be on outpost at Kopergaum. The Baee was taken prisoner, and confined for a short period in the Koorung and Trimbuk forts. Her son, Luxdeer, effected his escape, and remained for security at Bulsar, until our troops reduced the greater part of the Peshwa's territories.

13. "In April 1818, on Captain Briggs, the Political Agent for Khandesh, advancing with a force towards Trimbuk, Luxdeer, the ex-Raja of Penth, voluntarily came forward and aided the British with information, and his (supposed) influence among the hill people, in attacking and dispersing the hostile bands who were infesting the districts through which our troops had to pass. Under these circumstances, and an erroneous impression that the Penth territories had been forcibly seized by the late Amuldar of Nasik, and *already* recovered by Luxdeer, Captain Briggs was induced to recommend that the Raja be *confirmed* in his possessions."*

14. Mr. Elphinstone, in an official communication, dated 4th October 1818, writes as follows to the Political Agent:—

"I have already intimated, in a private letter, the reason I have for thinking that the lands of the Raja of Penth were actually held by Bajee Rao at the time of his attack on us, and for many years before; but I am far from thinking that they ought to be resumed. If you should be of opinion that it is worth securing the Raja's assistance in maintaining tranquillity by the sacrifice

A. D.	Mahomedan Claimant (*contd.*).	Rs.	a.	p.	Hindoo Claimant (*contd.*).	Rs.	a.	p.
1808	Abbajee Bhow.....	400	0	0	Bhow Sing and Nilkunt Rao.	1,250	0	0
1809	Ditto ditto	350	0	0	Ditto ditto	1,226	0	0
1810	Ruttonba Rana, (*a*) who had come to Poona on business ..... 200 0 0 Abbajee Bhow (*b*) 350 0 0	550	0	0	Ditto ditto, at the rate of Rs. 125 per mensem.	1,250	0	0
1811	Ruttonba Rana, who had come to Poona on business.....1,650 0 0 Abbajee Bhow.. 350 0 0	2,000	0	0	Ditto ditto	1,250	0	0
1812	Ruttonba Rana, who had come to Poona on business.....1,500 0 0 Abbajee Bhow.. 200 0 0	1,700	0	0	Ditto ditto	750	0	0
1813	Ruttonba Rana, who had come to Poona on business .....1,600 0 0 Abbajee Bhow ..200 0 0	1,800	0	0	Ditto ditto	750	0	0
		Rupees 12,077	13	9		Rupees 10,304	5	3

(*a*) Hindoo, and brother to Rajkoorbaee.

(*b*) Or Bulwunt Rao, first cousin to Chimnajee, and uncle, previous to his adoption by another branch, to Luxdeer.

* Vide letter dated 6th April 1820, from Captain Briggs, Political Agent in Khandesh, to Captain Pottinger, Collector of Ahmednuggur.

of this right, I beg you, therefore, to exercise your own judgment regarding the confirmation or resumption of the lands in question."

15. The following is an extract from the Political Agent's reply of the 9th October 1818:—

"From the inquiries I have made, since the receipt of your private letter on the subject, I am led to suppose that the molestation we should probably meet with, from retaking the country by force, would not be compensated by any revenue we might derive from its possession; besides, I have reason for supposing that the Penth Raja received his country at my hands as a restoration, rather than as a confirmation of his right, in the same way as the Raja of Abhoona, and that he considered his exertions in aiding Rungo Pundit procured it him as a reward.

"The real condition of the Penth Raja was certainly concealed from me at the time I promised to recommend the continuation of his Jageer; but the resumption of it was styled the inroads and oppression he experienced from Roopram Chowdree;* and the ambiguous language held by the persons from whom I obtained my first information, deceived me. Under the circumstances in which I was situated on our advance to Nasik, I should not have hesitated to have promised him his Jageer, to ensure his aid and tranquillity at such a time. I therefore venture to recommend that the Raja may be allowed to enjoy his lands without molestation, while he continues to exert his influence in keeping the peace among his hills."

16. Here, then, we find that Mr. Elphinstone, the Governor General's sole Commissioner for settling the conquered territories, did, in the full knowledge of the principal features of the case, authorise Captain Briggs, Political Agent in Khandesh, to exercise his own judgment regarding the confirmation or resumption of the principality he had already restored to its Raja, Luxdeer.

17. Under these circumstances, we cannot but admit, as perfectly valid, the title of the family to an estate which our own authorised Agent conferred on their representative upwards of twenty years since.

Claims set forth by different Parties to the Estate.

18. Having recorded an opinion favourable to the title by which the State is held, the next important point presenting itself for discussion is to ascertain the relative strength of the claims put forward, by the several parties, as heirs of the late Raja, Luxdeer Dulput Rao. I have embraced, in my inquiry on this head, the claims preferred by three parties, viz:—

1*st*.—The Begum, daughter of the late Raja, in her letter to Government dated 20th November last.

2*nd*.—Soorujkoorbaee, the wife of Dowlut Rao, younger brother to the late Raja, in a letter she presented to me on the 22nd March last.

* Roopram Chowdree's interference merely consisted in the circumstance of a small body of his troops having aided the officers of this Government in the exercise of their legitimate authority, as quellers of disturbance. (Vide paragraph 12 of this report.)

3*rd*.—Nilkunt Rao, the Muratha claimant, in his letter to Government dated 21st November last.

19. A settlement of the points in dispute between the Mahomedan and Hindoo claimants hinges on the question whether the principality was originally conferred by the Mogul Emperor on one or on two individuals.

20. The Mahomedan claimants, that is the Begum and Soorujkoorbaee, assert that Krushna Dulwee left but *one* son, who, with his wife and child, was taken prisoner to Delhi, and, on their initiation into Mahomedanism, made sole proprietor of the district; and that from him have sprung, by natural descent, adoption, and marriage, the personages, of whose relative situations I have endeavoured to convey a clear idea in the annexed Genealogical Sketch.

21. On referring to the Sketch, it will be seen that the Mahomedan party refuse to give Nilkunt Rao, or his reputed ancestors, any place in their genealogical table.

22. They maintain that Nilkunt Rao's grandfather, Mohun Sing, served as a Sipahee under Luxdeer Dulput Rao II., and was killed A. D. 1728, in a *mêlee* with some Kolees at Hursool. In consideration of the loss they had sustained, and their helpless state, the Raja bestowed upon the widow* and orphan son of his late Sipahee two villages,† of which they remained in peaceable possession for upwards of forty years.

23. In A. D. 1771, the two chief hereditary Karbarees, Mahadeo Mulhar and Rajaram Nurhur, having quarrelled with Kuramatjee, the uncle of the reigning Raja, Chimnajee, sought revenge, by furnishing Purwut Sing with forged documents,‡ and secretly instigating him to advance, on the plea of

* Aowbaee and Purwut Sing. † Moujas Neergoora and Chelmook.

‡ Copies of the two documents stated to have been forged are produced by the Begum: one is dated 1080 Fuslee (A. D. 1670-71), and the other the 5th Jesht Shood, of the forty-fourth year of the Hindoo cycle (probably A. D. 1730).

The former is addressed by Abdool Momin to his brother Abdool Rem, resident of Kusba Penth. It is to the effect that they were brothers, and had both, for the sake of acquiring the Wutun, become Musulmans; but as the wife and child of Abdool Rem had remained in the Hindoo faith, and there was consequently a probability of their descendants quarrelling regarding possession, they did both, whilst yet living, and with due regard to the custom of the world, and their religious law, divide the Wutun into equal shares, so as to prevent any dispute amongst their descendants. The person who might hereafter infringe or quarrel regarding the agreement now made should be deemed as one who had eaten hog's flesh, and broken an oath administered on the Koran.

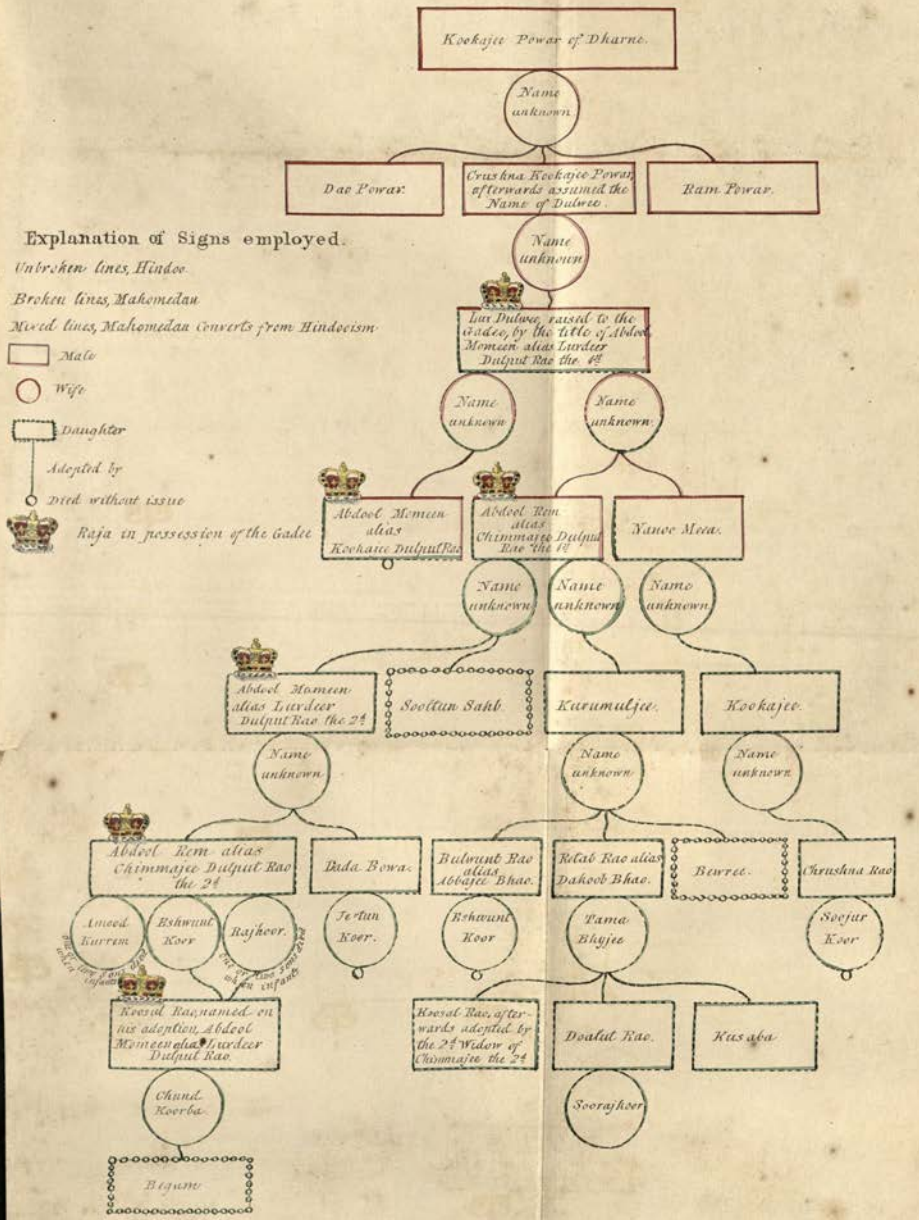
Nilkunt Rao states that he knows such a document did exist, but never having seen it, cannot speak as to the correctness of the copy.

The latter is from Luxdeer II. to his younger brother (*a*) or *protegé* Purwut Sing, conferring on him and his heirs half of the Prant or Purguna, (*b*) and half the Kusba Hursool, inclusive of land revenue and customs, on account of his father having been killed in battle. This

(*a*) The Murathee word चाकजी bears both these meanings.

(*b*) In the Murathee a contraction use is made of प्रांत, which stands for Prant or Purguna.

SKETCH
of the
LINEAGE of KOOKAJEE POWAR, framed from particulars furnished by the Mussulman Claimants, to the PENTH "GADEE."



being sprung from the same stock as their patron, a false claim to a share of the principality.

24. When the claims preferred by the impostor were under investigation at Poona, Mahadeo Rao Mulhar openly espoused the side of Purwut Sing, whilst Rajaram Nurhur professed to continue in the interest of the Raja. By playing into one another's hands, the treacherous Karbarees succeeded in extorting from Chimnajee a paper* concessory of all that had been so unjustly claimed by the son of his late Sipahee, and in obtaining, from the Peshwa's officers, letters† conferring on the Muratha half of the principality.

25. In A. D. 1790, the Peshwa, on a correct representation of the above circumstances, was induced to issue an order‡ recalling the decree passed by his officers in favour of the Muratha. Heemut Sing, however, by remaining aloof, so as to avoid the order being served on him, managed to retain the original decree.

26. The assignment in A. D. 1798, of a share of the sequestered revenues for the support of the Murathas, is to be attributed to the undue exercise of the influence possessed at Court by their relation Manojee Phakray, rather than to an admission of the claim they had advanced to being of the same lineage as the Raja.

Sunud, it is stated, was drawn up after examining, and with due reference to the Sunud given by his ancestor for half the Prant, half the Prant and half the customs having been kept on account of the expenditure for the fort and Sebundees.

Nilkunt Rao says his grandmother Aowbaee used to mention that there was a Sunud given: but the provisions of the Sunud were never carried into effect; nor did he ever see the original document, and cannot, therefore, state whether the copy produced be true.

* This paper, and the one referred to in paragraph 27, are in original with Nilkunt Rao. They bear Mahomedan and Hindoo dates corresponding with 29th May A. D. 1772, and June 12th A. D. 1801. Their contents being of importance to the case under consideration, translations, prepared by Serjeant Goodine, of the Revenue Survey, are appended.

† The original letters are with Nilkunt Rao. They bear date the 7th Rubee Akhur, Sun Sulla Shaban (29th June 1772), and are addressed by Mahadeo Rao Bulal Peshwa to the claimants Purwut Sing and Chimnajee Dulput Rao, informing them that their dispute regarding their respective shares to the principality having been duly considered at the Hoozoor, and it appearing that they had, from the time of their ancestors, enjoyed equal portions, Pandoorung Krush's Karkoon, Ballajee, would be sent to make an equitable division. The share of the person who might oppose or obstruct this order would be confiscated by Government; and that Purwut Sing was, as in former times, to manage the district.

The authenticity of these letters is admitted by the Mahomedan party, but they contend that the seal affixed thereto is the one which was used by the Mootaliks, whilst the order recalling these letters bears the impress of the very seal which the Peshwa always kept by him, and permitted no other person to make use of. (Vide paragraph 32, clause 5.)

‡ The original was obtained by me from a former Karbaree of the late Raja; it bears date 25th Rujub, Sun Esenee Tuseen (20th February A. D. 1791), and is addressed by the Peshwa Mahadeo Rao Narayen to Heemut Sing, ordering him to deliver over to the Sirkar the letters conferring a half share of the Penth Principality, which his father had by misrepresentation succeeded in obtaining from Government. The authenticity of the document is admitted by Nilkunt Rao.

27. In A. D. 1801, Luxdeer III., being young, ignorant, and desirous of obtaining the release of the district from attachment, and surrounded by treacherous Karbarees, was cajoled into signing a document* admitting the truth of all that had been advanced by his opponent.

28. In the preceding six paragraphs I have endeavoured to convey the substance of all that has been advanced by the Mahomedan claimants, whose story, it will be seen, differs widely from the account given by the Muratha.

29. Nilkunt Rao maintains that Krushna Dulwee left *three* sons, *two* of whom were taken to Delhi, and, on becoming converts to Mahomedanism, jointly raised to the Penth Gadee,—his own forefather, Ram Krush, with the appellation of Abdool Rem, and the Begum's ancestor by the title already quoted.†

30. He then proceeds to trace the genealogy of his family, and to account for the descendants of Abdool Rem remaining in the Hindoo faith, and the whole of the Gadee having been usurped by the Mahomedan branch.

31. It is, however, unnecessary that I should task your patience with a *résumé* of the lengthy particulars given by Nilkunt Rao, as most of them will be found detailed in the appended translations of the papers he and his father are accused of having extorted from the two Mahomedan Rajas; and such as are therein omitted I have endeavoured to delineate in the annexed Sketch.

32. Having thus given a summary of the particulars furnished by the rival claimants, I will here, to facilitate reference, and save repetition, make use of the double column, for inserting my own remarks and opinion, opposite to the arguments and proofs which have been adduced by the Mahomedan and Hindoo parties, in support of their respective claims:—

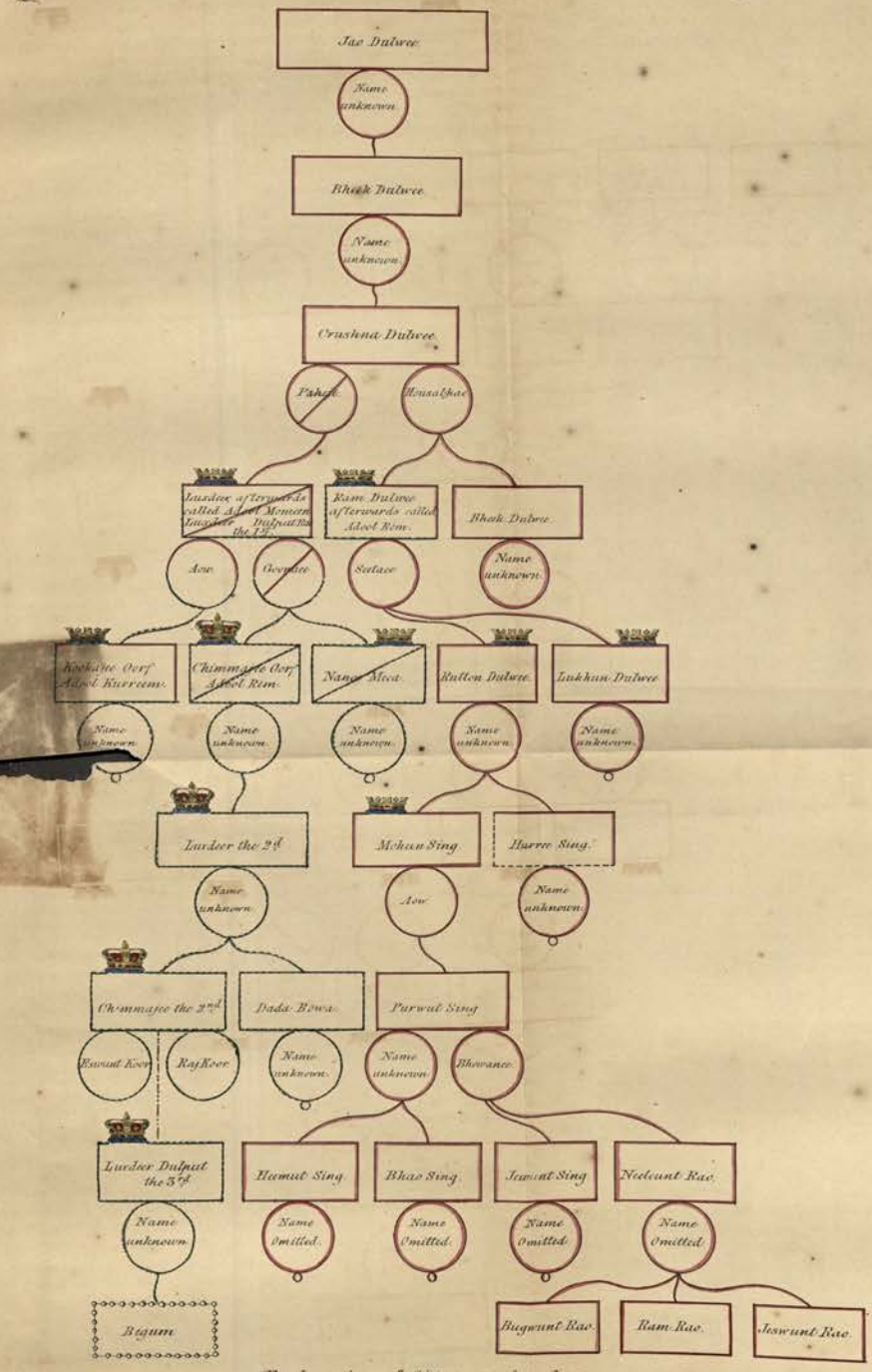
Arguments and Proofs adduced by the Mahomedan and Hindoo Parties.—Mahomedan Party.	*Remarks and opinion.—Mahomedan Party.*
I.—In proof of their ancestors having been the SOLE possessors of the principality, they adduce Sunuds of successive dates, bearing the seal and signature of the several rulers.	I.—These Sunuds are very good evidence that the Mahomedan Rajas, whose names and seals they bear, did actually occupy the Penth Gadee at the time the documents were issued, but do not prove the negative, which they are intended to establish. It is, however, frequently impossible to prove a negative, and perhaps, therefore, the non-existence of any documents, bearing the impress of a Muratha Raja, is the most forcible argument which the case admits of being advanced by the adverse party.

* Vide Appendix B.

† Vide Sketch opposite page 114.

Genealogical and Historical Sketch of the Tenth Family as given by the Hindoo Claimant.

GENEALOGY.



Explanation of Signs employed.

Unbroken lines Hindoo
Broken lines Mahomedan
Mixed lines Mahomedan Converts from Hindooism
Males
Legitimate
Bastard
Raja in sole possession of the "Gadee"
Females
Wife
Fille de joie
Daughter
Adopted by
Died without issue
Raja in part possession of the "Gadee"

HISTORY.

Jao exchanged his family name of "Powar" for that of "Dulwee," on being appointed manager of the villages composing the present Principality of Penth, and then forming part of the possessions of the Raja of Buglana.

His grandson, Krushna Bheek Dulwee, assumed the title of Raja, still retaining his office of Dulwee, under the Raja of Buglana.

Previous to his decease, Krushna Bheek divided his estate as follows:—

Ram Dulwee, the eldest legitimate son, was to have the management of the whole of the district, with the exception of the Hursool Purguna.

Bheek Dulwee, the second legitimate son, to have the management of the Hursool Purguna, and succeed to some garden land in Kusba Penth, and the Patelkee Wutun of two villages in the Dindoree Purguna.

Luxdeer Dulwee, although the first-born, being a bastard, was to have no share in the management of the district, but to repair with the family standard, and a party of twenty-five Sowars, to the service of the Buglana Raja at Moolheir.

After the demise of his father, Luxdeer returned from Moolheir, and usurped the management of the whole district; he murdered his brother's Karbaree, and kept for a period his two brothers in confinement. On their release, they and Luxdeer jointly managed the district. Bheek Dulwee subsequently died without issue.

Luxdeer was subsequently guilty of conduct so rebellious that the Mogul Emperor sent an officer to seize and take him to Delhi: the officer was three years at Penth before he could lay hands on Luxdeer, and then only effected his purpose by stratagem.

Luxdeer, his wife, his son Kookajee, and his brother Ram Dulwee, were taken prisoners to Delhi, where the three male prisoners, without proper inquiry as to which of them was the offender, were sentenced to death; but whilst in confinement, awaiting the execution of their sentence, Ram Dulwee cured the Emperor's daughter of the asthma, and, consequently, not only obtained a remission of the sentence passed on him and his relations, but, on the four embracing the religion of Mahomed, the Suwusthan was conferred on Ram Dulwee and Luxdeer, Sahnak, the former with the title of Abdool Rem, and the latter with that of Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao.

Ram Dulwee's wife was, with her two sons, living at her mother's house at the time, and consequently, having escaped being taken to Delhi, remained in the Hindoo faith. Being apprehensive that, in consequence of their difference of religion, their descendants would quarrel regarding possession, Abdool Momin executed a deed, dividing the district into two equal portions, one to be enjoyed by his heirs, the other by the Hindoo sons of Ram Dulwee. This deed has been lost.

After his return from Delhi, Luxdeer had, by a *fille de joie,* two sons, Chimnajee and Nanoo Meeah. Luxdeer and his brother, Abdool Rem, were killed when waging battle with some Kolees at a village in the Dindoree Purguna, named Mohuree. They were both buried in one tomb at Meloosker.

They were succeeded by their five sons, the three Musulmans holding jointly a half share of the country, and the two Hindoos in like manner a half share.

To put an end to a quarrel which subsequently arose between Kookajee and Rutton Dulwee, the former, being childless, adopted and made a Musulman of the latter's younger son, Huree Sing.

On Kookajee's death, Chimnajee usurped the whole of the Gadee, and sent Huree Sing back to his father Rutton Dulwee, who however refused to receive the Mahomedan convert as a *son*.

Rutton Dulwee, with his son Mohun Sing, and the Musulman Huree Sing, having been deprived of their proper share of the district, went to live with their relation Toke at Abhoona.

Luxdeer II., after the death of Chimnajee, Rutton Dulwee, and Huree Sing, went to Abhoona, and, by promising to restore his half share of the district, persuaded Mohun Sing to return with him to Penth. He fulfilled his promise, and the two remained in peaceable possession of the Gadee until Mohun Sing was killed in a *mélee* with some Kolees at Hursool.

At this time Mohun Sing's son, Purwut Sing, was but two and a half years of age, and therefore could not look to his own interests. Luxdeer gave the widow, Aowbaee, a Sunud, conferring on her orphan son half of the Hursool Purguna, and also bestowed three villages in the Penth Purguna on the widow herself. The widow enjoyed for some period the three villages which had been conferred on her personally ; but, in consequence of his youth, and the extreme distress of mind under which his mother laboured, Purwut Sing never took possession of his half of Hursool, he and his mother being kept in Luxdeer's house, and enjoying the same privileges as if they were part of his family.

On his attaining the age of eighteen, Purwut Sing was instructed by his mother, Aowbaee, to demand from Chimnajee (the son and successor of Luxdeer, who had lately died) his just share of half the principality.

On meeting with a refusal from Chimnajee, Purwut Sing petitioned the Peshwa, Mahadeo Rao Bulal, who, having summoned both parties before him, decided in favour of the claim which had been preferred, and sent a Karkoon to Penth to divide the district between the two parties ; and Chimnajee gave the bond quoted in paragraph 26 of the accompanying report.

Purwut Sing remained in possession of his share for two years, when he was finally dispossessed by the Mahomedan party.

The rest of the story told by Nilkunt Rao corresponds with the particulars set forth by the Mahomedan party, as detailed in paragraphs 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 27 of the accompanying report, with the exception that Nilkunt Rao denies that the document referred to in the last-mentioned paragraph was obtained otherwise than by the free will and consent of the parties granting it, and endeavours to throw on the Mahomedan branch the blame of the disturbances which led to the Peshwa's interference.

The following is a catalogue of the Sunuds; they confer grants and privileges on different individuals:—

Name of the Raja entered in the Sunud.	Inscription on the Seal.	English Date corresponding with that which the Sunud bears.
1. Dulput Rao Raja ..	Abdool Kureem oorf Kookajee Rao Dulput, Bunda Basha Alumgeer 1089.	February 1683
2. Abdool Momin oorf Chimnajee Dulput Rao Raja.	Abdool Remeena Abdool Momin, Bunda Durya Sun 1092.	29th March 1694
3. Abdool Rem oorf Chimnajee Dulput Rao Raja.	Abdool Remeena Abdool Momin, Bunda Durya Sun 1092.	29th March 1694
4. Abdool Rem wulud Abdool Momin oorf Chimnajee.	Not decipherable.....	8th November 1698
5. Chimnajee Dulput Rao Raja.	Abdool Remeena Abdool Momin, Bunda Durya Sun 1092.	October 1701
6. Abdool Rem oorf Chimnajee Dulput Rao.	Abdool Remeena Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao, Bunda Basha Alumgeer 1016.	26th March 1705
7. Dulput Rao Raja ..	Abdool Remeena Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao, Fidwee Mahmoud Shah Basha Gazee.	29th November 1723
8. Maharaj Dulput Rao Raja.	Abdool Remeena Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao, Fidwee Mahmoud Shah Basha Gazee.	June 1724
9. Dulput Rao Raja ..	Abdool Remeena Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao, Fidwee Mahmoud Shah Basha Gazee.	8th July 1724
10. Maharaj Luxdeer Dulput Rao Raja.	Abdool Momineena Abdool Rem, Bunda Mahmoud Shah Basha Gazee.	October 1727
11. Luxdur Dulput Rao Raja.	Abdool Momineena Abdool Rem, Bunda Mahmoud Shah Basha Gazee.	1st October 1751
12. Chimnajee Dulput Rao Raja.	Abdool Rem, Fidwee Shah Alumgeer Basha Gazee.	26th October 1757
13. Chimnajee Dulput Rao Raja.	Abdool Rem, Fidwee Shah Alumgeer Basha Gazee II., Sun 1169.	15th July 1776
14. Abdool Momin oorf Luxdeer Dulput Rao Raja.	No seal.....	19th June 1838

II.—A letter, written in A. D. 1818, and an affidavit made in A. D. 1830, by certain hereditary officers of the Penth territory, denying that part of the statement in which the Muratha Nilkunt Rao asserts (vide Sketch op-

II.—Although fully aware how very unreasonable it would be, in an inquiry like the present, to adhere to the strict rules of evidence by which an ordinary civil suit would be tried, still I cannot admit the documents here referred

posite page 116) that his father Purwut Sing was for two years in actual possession of certain villages.

to as sufficient to prove the point they are intended to establish.

One of them is a mere letter, written in A. D. 1818, by certain hereditary officers, to Luxdeer III., informing him that they had never *seen* the said twenty-three villages under the management of Purwut Sing. Now the evidence of most of the parties subscribing to this document must go for nothing, inasmuch as they were not born until long subsequent to the expiration of the two years during which Nilkunt Rao asserts the villages were enjoyed by his father; and, therefore, they merely depose to not having *seen* that which is alleged to have happened previous to their birth!

Three of the writers of this letter, however, being very old men, could depose regarding a period of which they had actual knowledge; and therefore the document would, notwithstanding the death of these three individuals, have been most excellent evidence, had it been written at a time when the people who affixed their signatures could not possibly have had any temptation to deviate from the truth.

But such is not the case; for the paper in question was drawn up at Penth, for the express purpose of disproving the claims preferred before the Political Agent by Nilkunt Rao, and at a time when, if those signing it were anxious to serve Luxdeer, they could not have been withheld, by either the fear of a cross-examination or the dread of the punishment with which such an offence would now be visited by the regulation, from giving in a document replete with the grossest falsehood.

Assuredly, then, under such circumstances, we must reject the proffered evidence as insufficient to disprove that which has been advanced by the opposite party.

Similar reasons may be assigned for rejecting the second paper, which was drawn up in A. D. 1830, and is to the same purport as the one just quoted. It is true that this second paper may be considered rather in the light of an affidavit than an ordinary letter; but then, although taken regarding a point at issue before the Agent for Sirdars, it was drawn up and sworn to at Penth, before Luxdeer's own Komavisdars, without any authority or commission being had from Mr. Marriott. Moreover, the deponents never presented themselves at Poona for cross-examination, nor even to hear the contents of their affidavit read out to them.

III.—A document lately come to light, in which the Muratha Purwut Sing promises a heavy bribe to the Karbarees mentioned in paragraph 23 in event of his succeeding in establishing the claim then preferred before the Peshwa.

III.—Nilkunt Rao acknowledges that this paper is in the handwriting of his elder brother Heemut Sing, and signed by his father Purwut Sing. Its contents prove that the agents of the Mahomedan Raja must have been very corrupt, and prepared to sacrifice the interests of their own patron; but

we cannot infer from the paper that the claim set forth by Purwut Sing was false.

The two Karbarees, by aiding the Muratha, were not only hazarding their hereditary offices of Dewan and Vukeel, but even perilling their lives, and may, consequently, have exacted the promise of a handsome *douceur* before they would consent to run so great a risk. However culpable their conduct may have been, Purwut Sing's compliance with their demands cannot be admitted as proof of the falsehood of the claims he had advanced. Considering the times, and the character of the people he had to deal with, he may probably have been of opinion that the most just claims would be negatived unless he gained over, by bribes and promises, those whose evidence and influence was of such vital importance.

IV.—In the documents just quoted as written by Purwut Sing, and admitted by Nilkunt Rao as genuine, as well as in copy of a letter stated to have been addressed by the two Karbarees to Purwut Sing, it is mentioned that the Mahomedans have been in power, "and hitherto carried on the Government"; therefore the statement now made by Nilkunt Rao, as to Mohun Sing and Luxdeer II. having been in joint possession of the Gadee, is false.

IV.—It were needless to call in question the authenticity of the latter of the documents here quoted, as its contents correspond with those of the former paper, the handwriting and signature of which have been, as above stated, acknowledged by Nilkunt Rao.

These papers, in stating that the rule of the country had hitherto been in Musulman hands, would appear to contain a tacit admission that the Muratha branch had exercised no power, nor held any possessions; and, consequently, throw discredit on the statement of the present Hindoo claimant as regards this point.

In the papers, however, it is also stated that the ancestors of both branches became Musulmans for the sake of acquiring the principality. This statement may at first sight appear destructive of the truth of the account given by the Mahomedan party of the family origin (vide Sketch opposite page 114): but it is to be remembered that this latter part of the statement bears strongly on a point now at issue; and, therefore, is to be received as *ex parte*, because the writers of it had evidently sided with the Hindoo claimant. The admission, however, made in the first part of the letter, that the Muratha descendants had never been in power, need not be viewed with the same suspicion, inasmuch as it was not made to serve any purpose, but would appear rather to be a casual acknowledgment of a fact which at that time had not been called in question, and subsequently only brought forward when it could no longer be refuted by living evidence.

V.—Although the letters dated 29th June 1772, conferring half the principality on the Hindoo claimant (vide paragraph 24), are drawn up in the

V.—I draw quite a contrary inference from this circumstance.

The Mootalik being empowered to make use of the Peshwa's seal, a

name and bear the seal of the Peshwa, still it is known, from the form of one of the letters,* that it was the copy of the seal which was in the hands of the Mootalik, whilst the Sunud revoking the decree bears the impress of the very seal kept by the Peshwa himself; hence the latter must be entitled to greater weight than the former.

paper bearing that impress must be considered as authenticated by the Peshwa himself, for *qui per alium facit, seipsum facere videtur;* and I am of opinion that the authorised agent of so excellent and just a Prince as Mahadeo Rao Bulal was far more likely to pass a correct and equitable decision than a weak-minded, inexperienced stripling such as Mahadeo Rao Narayen.

VI.—The second time the district was attached, a share of the revenues was granted to Heemut Sing, consequent on the influence possessed by his brother-in-law, Manojee Phakray, at the Court of the Peshwa, and not with reference to the justice of his claims.

VI.—Manojee Phakray died in January 1800, whilst it will be observed, on referring to the note subjoined to paragraph 11, that the Muratha claimant was in receipt of the allowance during the years A. D. 1805 to 1813. In the absence of any documents throwing light on the subject, it is impossible to ascertain the *grounds* on which the Peshwa Bajee Rao Rugoonath may have allotted a portion of the revenues for the support of the Muratha. Nor, at this distant day, would it either be just or expedient to inquire as to whether it was the exertion of any undue influence which induced the Peshwa to grant the allowance. Were we once to enter on an inquiry of this nature, it is impossible to foresee when we should be able to close our proceedings. For instance, some Koonbee or other, whose life had been passed in cultivating his fields, might start up, and, tracing his descent from the Buglana Raja, call in question the right by which Aurungzeeb deprived his ancestor of the principality.

The will of the Peshwa, when once expressed, became *law;* and it is assuredly sufficient if we look to the *legality* of what was done under former Governments, without inquiring as to its *justice.*

VII.—The members of the Hindoo branch have from time to time entered their names and lineage in the records kept by their Oopadheeas† at Nasik

VII.—This inference is scarcely warranted. Even Nilkunt Rao himself, in 1819-20, long after the plea had been advanced of his ancestor having

* In the Peshwa's seal, the last letter of the word Prudhan not having been inverted, the impression came off thus प्रधाक; on the seal in the keeping of the Mootalik, the same letter was properly engraved, and came off thus प्रधान.

† A family priest. The Oopadheeas, at large places of pilgrimage, such as Nasik and Trimbuk, keep a regular set of books, containing the name and pedigree of the various persons for whom they officiate.

This is done with a view to preserve to the family of the Oopadheeas the spiritual control

and Trimbuk, but made no allusion in these entries to Ram Dulwee having assumed the name of Abdool Rem, and become a convert to Mahomedanism. Hence the inference that Nilkunt Rao had no Musulman ancestor. become a Musulman, carefully abstained from the mention of any such change. It is possible that this omission on the part of Nilkunt Rao and the other members of his family arose from a feeling of the impropriety of acknowledging, in such a document, relationship with a person of another faith, because the admission might tend to damage their purity as Hindoos. Although somewhat out of place here, it cannot be superfluous to state that the Musulman party carefully abstained from adducing the argument now combated, or, in fact, alluding to any particulars which could lead me to call for the production of the Oopadheea's books, until they learnt that I had already been actively employed in examining the registers; and even then they found means to dissuade the Oopadheea from producing a paper which would have at once proved the incorrectness of their statement on some most material points.

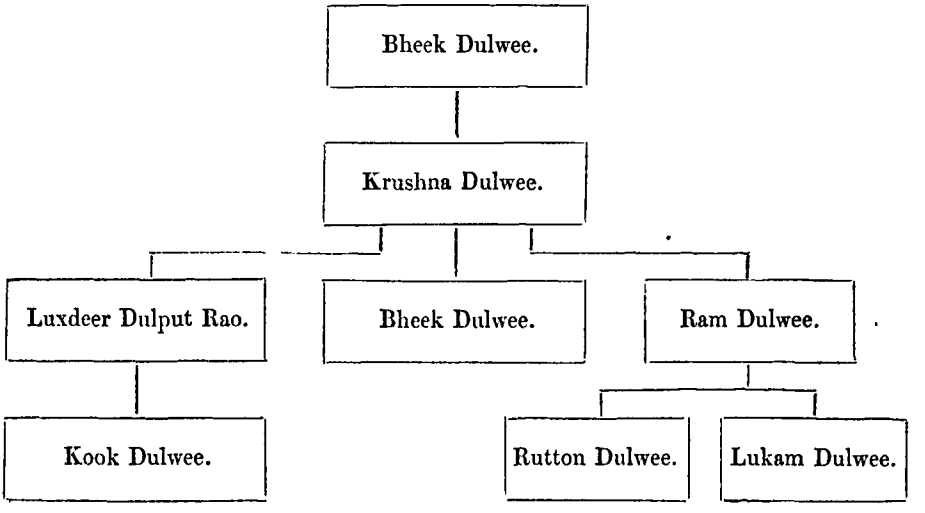
It was only after I had written the above paragraphs, and again sent for the Oopadheea, in order that I might clear up, by a cross-examination, the doubts which existed in my mind as to the extent and truth of the information already afforded, and had also expressed my dissatisfaction at the evasions which had been attempted to be practised on this and other points, and my determination to stop the proceedings, and report to Government, that the Begum's Karbaree, at the last moment, thinking I knew more than I actually did, produced a copy of the paper in question. The Karbaree declined stating whence he had procured this copy, but by sending for the Oopadheea before he could possibly be made aware of what had just passed, I obtained from him the original. It is drawn up in the name, and bears the seal of Luxdeer I. Being obscurely worded, a literal translation might fail to give a precise idea of its contents, which will be better understood by a glance at the following Table.

The paper was written in 1568 Shuké (A. D. 1646-47), by Luxdeer, after his conversion to Mahomedanism, and his acquisition of the Penth country, which, as the document itself bears intrinsic evidence of authenticity, shows the correctness of what I have before advanced, that the family must have been first raised to the Gadee about two hundred years since.*

over succeeding generations, it being usual for persons visiting the Jutras from a distance to employ the priest who is in possession of the sign manual of their ancestors. The Oopadheea adds the calling of an innkeeper to his spiritual functions, so the preservation of his records is, to him, an object of the greatest importance.

* Old entries by other members of the family might at first sight lead to a supposition that the principality was not conferred on Luxdeer till a much later period; but the obscure wording of these old documents gives them an apparent meaning which a closer examination shows to be erroneous. This I mention to prevent after cavil.

Table of the Family of Luxdeer I., as given by himself, in a Paper deposited with the Oopadheea.



Here, then, we find that Krushna Dulwee's father's name was Bheek, not Kookajee; that he had three sons, and no brothers; all which facts disprove the statements to which the Mahomedan party hitherto have attached so much importance, and continued pertinaciously to bring forward.

VIII.—If Ram Dulwee did become a Musulman, where is his tomb? The burial-place of Luxdeer I., his wives, and all those who claim descent from him, can be pointed out.

VIII.—Nilkunt Rao replies that Abdool Rem (Ram Dulwee) and his brother Luxdeer were both killed in an action with some Kolees, and buried under one tomb, at the village of Meloosker, in the Dindoree Purguna.

I visited the tomb myself, and found it surmounted by two Tu,uveezes,* appearing at first sight as if two persons had been buried there. On a more narrow examination, however, it might be seen that one of the Tu,uveezes was of the usual form and size, and the other was smaller and flat, and yet not like the flat Tu,uveezes† placed over women.

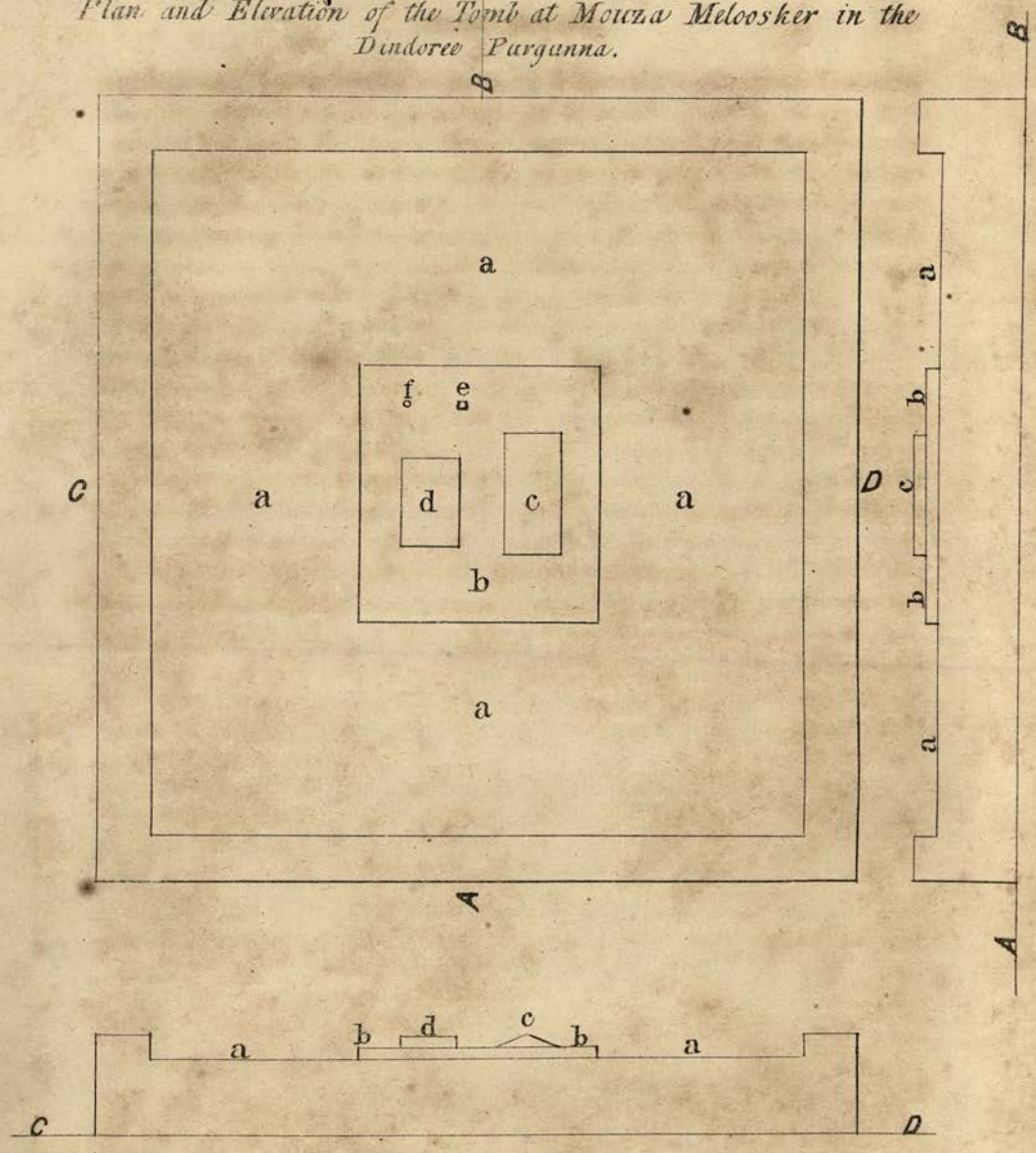
From inquiries made amongst Musulmans, I learn that two Tu,uveezes are never raised on one tomb, and that Mahomedans are always buried singly, save when many may fall in battle, and from press of time are cast into pits, as with us. This could not have been the case in the present instance, as the action took place at some distance, and the body or bodies were brought to be buried at Meloosker, a Patelkee village of the family.

The Begum's party account for the apparent anomaly of there being *two* Tu,uveezes and *one* body by saying that Luxdeer, the only person buried

* The distinguishing mark that a true believer lies below.

† The Tu,uveez placed over a male is shaped thus △, that over a female thus □.

Plan and Elevation of the Tomb at Mouza Meloosker in the Dinduree Purganna.



Scale

5 0 5 10 15 feet.

Reference

a. *The Aota.*
b. *The Qubur.*
c. *The large Tuweez.*
d. *The small flat Tuweez.*
e. *The Ooddan or Frankincense Pot.*
f. *The Sumaee or lamp.*

there, lost his head in battle, and the head, being afterwards recovered, was buried by the side of the body.

Finding that the soil was not of a corrosive quality, destructive to bony matter, I inquired in writing of the several claimants whether they had any objection, on the score of religious or family feelings, to the point in dispute as to the existence of one or two bodies being ascertained by an examination of the contents of the tomb, and having procured the *full consent* of all parties, and in the presence of their agents, I opened the grave.

I found situated at the usual depth, immediately below the larger Tu,uveez, the remains of the skeleton of one body, without, however, any traces of the skull, leaving it to be inferred that a headless trunk had been interred there. Under the smaller flat Tu,uveez, although I dug much deeper, not a vestige of bone could be found.

Had the one skeleton discovered been placed in the middle of the tomb, one might have supposed that the Tu,uveez had also been originally placed in the centre, but subsequently moved by the Muratha party on one side, and the flat and smaller one added ; but from the position in which the skeleton was found (in relation to the Tu,uveez above), it is most probable that after the interment no alteration had ever been made in the situation of the larger Tu,uveez.

How then, it may be asked, came it to be placed on one side of the tomb, and the flat and smaller Tu,uveez on the other ? This I think can be well accounted for, when we know that Mahomedans, like Jews, have a superstitious feeling of aversion to its being known that any part of the bodies of their friends or relations remains unburied, and, possibly from a feeling of this kind, the sons of the deceased Luxdeer may, after burying the headless trunk in the presence of their followers, have given it out that they had afterwards recovered the head from the enemy, and placed it beside the body. To give a colour to this report, in building the tomb, the large Tu,uveez was placed on one side, over the body, and the smaller over the spot where the head was stated to be.

This supposition is borne out by the family tradition alluded to above, and which was mentioned to me long previous to my visiting the tomb.

Muratha Party.

I.—The papers of which translations are annexed as Appendices A and B, in which the Raja Chimnajee and his adopted son Luxdeer III. fully admit the greater part of that which has been advanced by the Hindoos.

Muratha Party.

I.—The Mahomedan party maintain that the former of these papers was extorted from Chimnajee, and that Luxdeer was cajoled into giving the latter. In proof of the first of these allegations they urge that Chimnajee's paper was witnessed by Sunjoo Nurotum, Deshmook and Deshpandia of Buglana, who, however, subscribed himself by the single title of Deshpandia ; and that his thus affixing only one of his titles affords proof of the deed not having been fully and fairly executed. It is certainly the custom for such officers, when witnessing any deed,

to affix their titles at full length ; and they are generally rather particular in doing so, not only to display their consequence, but also to multiply records in proof of their having been in the enjoyment of the office ; still, at this distance of time, it is impossible to surmise from what cause this omission may have arisen, and it is of less consequence when we consider that this deed was drawn up at Poona, during the reign of the just Mahadeo Rao Bulal, whose name, as protector of the weak, stands high in the annals of his country, and that the paper was further authenticated by the seal of the Mahomedan law officer of Poona.

In proof of Luxdeer having been cajoled into signing the latter document, the Musulman party argue his extreme ignorance and youth at the time of the deed being executed ; but although he was young, be it remembered that his mother Rajkoor, his immediate protectress, was always esteemed a woman of ability and cunning, and that *this* deed was fully witnessed.

Although, then, it must be considered that there is no actual evidence of these documents having been unfairly obtained, still the impression on my mind is, that in stating the Mahomedan branch to have once had a share in the rule of the principality, and Ram Dulwee to have become a Mahomedan, they state more than ever actually happened. It were difficult to reconcile this impression with the circumstances which appear in evidence as to the documents having been fairly obtained; still it is an impression formed after a most careful and patient examination of the case, and it is strengthened by the fact that Bheek Dulwee is in those documents named as the third son, whereas from the original pedigree roll of Luxdeer, the authenticity of which is unquestionable, it appears he is the second son.

One blemish in the historical truth of the document may give grounds for us to view the whole with some suspicion; and it is therefore just possible that Chimnajee may have signed his paper under an erroneous idea of its nature and extent, or, in fact, been deceived by his Karbarees, who, as has been above shown, were in the interest of the opposite party ; whilst Rajkoor may have allowed her son Luxdeer to sign the document drawn up in his name, from the idea that the doing so would induce the Muratha claimants to exercise their interest at Court, in freeing the country from sequestration.

If Ram Dulwee became a Musulman, where is his tomb ? If his Mahomedan descendants exercised a share of the executive functions, where are Sunuds bearing their seals, or any other deeds running in their name ? Had any such ever been in existence, can we suppose that the party would not have eagerly brought them forward ?

33. We have now taken a view of what the two main parties claiming the succession have to say in support of their respective cases. Before entering on the sub-division involved in the claims of the two Musulman personages, whose pretensions are identical, in so far as they are opposed to those of the Muratha, it may be well to dispose of the principal question, namely whether the right of inheritance be vested in the Muratha or in the Musulman.

34. It appears to be clearly established that the two branches are sprung from one common ancestor, Krushna Dulwee, and that with his issue the lineage branched off into two houses, those of Luxdeer and of Ram Dulwee. But the assertions that the latter passed over to the faith of Mahomed, and that his descendants enjoyed a share of the Gadee, are not satisfactorily borne out by any proofs adduced.

35. The remaining arguments used, directly or impliedly, by Nilkunt Rao, are,—

1*st.*—That Kookajee, the sole legitimate son of Luxdeer, having died without issue, his inheritance ought not to have passed to his two bastard brethren, but into the collateral or Hindoo branch, of which Nilkunt Rao is now the representative.

2*nd.*—That although Chimnajee I. and his bastard descendants have, up to the demise of the late Luxdeer III., wrongfully usurped, sometimes the whole of the principality, and at all times the privileges appertaining to the elder branch of the family, still as, by the decease of the late Luxdeer, the male representatives have become extinct, the succession ought, at any rate, now to pass to the collateral or Hindoo branch.

36. To the first of these arguments it may be replied, that this allegation of bastardy, as regards the father and brethren of Kookajee, is now for the first time brought forward; it was never advanced by the Muratha contenders in any former inquiry held either under the Peshwa's or the British Government. The question therefore arises, by what proof is it *now* supported? By none. But even if this assertion of Nilkunt Rao were true, it would rather militate against his pretensions than make in favour of them, inasmuch as, were they bastards, born from a common prostitute,* Chimnajee and Nunoo Meeah were precluded by the Mahomedan law from inheritance.† But their father, Luxdeer I., was, according to Nilkunt Rao, also born of a prostitute, and, as such, being in the eye of the Mahomedan law *filius nullius*, he could have no collateral kindred. Nilkunt Rao does not call in question the right of Luxdeer I. to the possessions, nor can he, for they were conferred by royal gift; and although a bastard cannot inherit, yet he can acquire. Kookajee, being legitimate, could of course inherit, for a bastard may have heirs, although he cannot have ancestors. Kookajee, then, having no collateral kindred, and dying without issue, his inheritance should have lapsed to the paramount authority. His cousins could not inherit because their uncle, Luxdeer, being a bastard, was not legally related, and therefore the same law which would preclude the bastard sons of Luxdeer from inheriting would

* The literal meaning of the term used by the Muratha, viz. Bhogputhee (भोगपती), is "girl of pleasure," *i. e. fille de joie*, or common prostitute.

† *Authorities.*—Replies to Questions put to the Mahomedan Law Officers of the Tanna and Poona Adawluts; McNaghten's Principles and Precedents of Mahomedan Law.

to a still greater degree debar his nephews, with whom Luxdeer himself, being a bastard, could, as already shown, have no legal consanguinity.

37. It will be evident, then, that the bastardy of Chimnajee and Nunoo Meeah, even if admitted, does not give the shadow of a title to the Hindoo party; and although the assumption of the Gadee by Chimnajee may have been originally an act of usurpation, nevertheless prescriptive right, founded on a period of full one hundred and forty-five years, would be held in all countries, both of Asia and Europe, as sufficient to secure a right of succession to his descendants.

38. This prescriptive right we know to have been sanctioned by the father and elder brother of Nilkunt Rao himself; for in no instance, not even when backed by Manojee Phakray's strong influence at Court,* did they ever deny that Chimnajee's descendant had a right to the executive power and place on the Gadee.

39. This sanction, then, of prescriptive right, totally invalidates the first objection advanced by Nilkunt Rao.

40. The answer to Nilkunt Rao's second objection hinges primarily on a question as to whether a female can succeed to the executive power.

41. This question will be presently discussed, when considering the respective claims of the two Musulman parties; meanwhile it may be sufficient to remark, that even supposing Nilkunt Rao's assertion were deemed to be proved, still his own claims are thereby in nowise advanced, inasmuch as it is an established principle of both Hindoo and Mahomedan law, that a Hindoo cannot inherit from a Musulman: if, therefore, a female cannot succeed, the property, being without legal heirs, must escheat to the paramount power, that is the British Government.

42. On the above grounds, Nilkunt Rao's claim would be equally untenable were we to admit as proved his unsupported statement that his ancestor Ram Dulwee had become a Musulman, and, along with the brother, Luxdeer, been raised to the Gadee.†

43. So that in every point of view Nilkunt Rao's title is nullified.

44. Having thus disposed of the title of the Muratha claimant, it now remains to consider the validity or otherwise of the claims put forward by the two Musulman parties, viz. 1*st*, Soorujkoor, sister-in-law, and 2*nd*, the Begum, daughter of the late Raja.

45. Soorujkoor does not deny that the Begum's title is valid, supposing

* Vide paragraphs 26 and 32, clause 6.

† It will have been observed (vide paragraph 29) that Nilkunt Rao maintains the principality was conferred on the two brothers as a price of, and subsequent to, their conversion. This conversion must, by their religious law, be held to sever all family ties; and although the Hindoo branch could have inherited property possessed or acquired by their ancestors previous to their change of religion, the circumstance of this property having been obtained by them subsequent to, and as a price of, their conversion, clearly excludes all further participation on the part of those descendants who remain in the Hindoo faith.

the case one of inheritance of common landed or other property; but she maintains, that according to the usage of all the petty feudal States, be the religion of the ruler Musulman or Hindoo, a Kuneea or daughter is never allowed to succeed to the Gadee; that in repeated instances a Kuneea has been passed over to make way for a more distant male relation; that in other instances the widows of Rajas have been allowed to carry on the government, and, in case they were not pregnant at the time, to provide for the succession by adoption.

46. Hence, argues Soorujkoor, "since my husband, had he been alive, must certainly, to the exclusion of the Begum, have succeeded Luxdeer in the principality, and, on his dying without adult male issue, the chief authority would, agreeably to the practice of the country, have devolved on me, with power to continue the succession by adoption, I should at once be seated on the Gadee, and allowed to adopt; for my title to succeed is not at all invalidated by the accident of my husband having died previous to the demise of Luxdeer III., the bond of relationship remaining the same."

47. Soorujkoor is not, however, borne out in this conclusion. There are precedents for widows of deceased Rajas being permitted to carry on the government, pending the birth or minority of a son, and there are cases in which Government, as an act of grace, has permitted childless widows to adopt; but no precedent* can be quoted for the widow of an heir *presumptive* to a petty principality, such as Penth, succeeding, or adopting an heir to the Gadee; and, consequently, the very argument which Soorujkoor adduces as destructive of the claims of the Begum, viz. "the want of precedents," is equally if not more fatal to her own pretensions, however ingenuously she may have attempted to support them, by endeavouring to make her own situation analagous to that of the widows of personages who were in *actual possession* of the Gadee at the time of their decease.

48. It now only remains for us to dispose of the pretensions of the Begum.

49. As the lineal and the only descendant of the late Luxdeer, her right

* Mulhar Rao Holkar had only one son, Kundeh Rao, who married the celebrated Aylabaee, by whom he had one son, Malee Rao. Kundeh Rao died before his father, and Malee Rao therefore succeeded to his grandfather's possessions. On Malee Rao's death, his mother Aylabaee assumed the administration; but this, we learn from Sir John Malcolm, she did, "on the grounds that the heirs of Mulhar Rao were extinct on the death of her son, and that, as wife and mother of the two last representatives of the family, she had the exclusive right of selecting the successor." In this case we see the succession claimed by the Baee, not merely on the ground of being the widow of the heir *presumptive*, but also on the plea of being representative of the son who had been in *actual possession*; whilst the claims of Soorujkoor rest on the former grounds alone. Not only in this particular are the cases different, for the Holkar State was at that time possessed of great power, and Aylabaee's succession was permitted more probably from political considerations, and her own ability to uphold her claims, than from a simple consideration of her right of inheritance,—considerations which are quite inapplicable to the petty principality of Penth.

of succeeding to the deceased's possessions is, by her religious law, unquestionable. As to the *usage*, however, which obtains in the petty principalities of the Dangs, regarding female succession, I have taken the liberty of referring to the Agent at Surat, and Collectors of Khandesh and Tanna. Copies of my reference, and of the replies received from these officers, are annexed,* as throwing light on several points noted in this despatch.†

50. It will be seen, from the appended correspondence, that although Kuneeas or daughters have been passed over in favour of distant male relations, no case is instanced, parallel to the present, in which there is no male relation, near or distant.

51. Although, however, no precedent, as far as I can learn, is to be quoted, for a daughter succeeding to a petty principality, it were hardly fair to infer that the territory should escheat to the paramount authority, inasmuch as a precedent‡ for such a course is also wanting; whilst the undoubted right, by the religious law, of the Begum to inherit, in the case of private property, would appear, in the absence of contrary precedents, to impart a degree of strength to her claims which Government would probably not be inclined to overrule, except upon very urgent grounds.

52. Such grounds, however, I believe to exist in the present case; for the Begum is altogether incapable of conducting the affairs of the principality. Having attained puberty, she is, by the Mahomedan law, competent to manage affairs, but she is nevertheless quite unfitted for the station she claims.

53. Her father, although a Musulman, left her to the care of a Brahminee Karkoon, with an allowance for her support of from Rs. 13 to Rs. 14 per mensem: no provision whatever was made for attendants, or education; and, at the time I visited Penth, she was, perhaps, more ignorant than Mahomedan females of the lowest class commonly are.

54. She appears bent upon marrying an individual whom that unprincipled Agent Heyat Khan§ brought from a distance, and introduced to her notice,

* Appendix C.

† The Agent in charge of the state papers at Poona was also referred to, but the correspondence was conducted in the Murathee language; and as it contains nothing of importance, I have not thought necessary to annex translations.

‡ McNaghten's Precedents of Mahomedan Law.

§ The following extracts will show the opinion which was entertained of this individual by Messrs. Reid, Pottinger, and Reeves:—"The credit of the Raja is entirely destroyed, principally through the conduct of his new Dewans Balabhaee and Heyat Khan. He is merely a tool in the hands of these persons, who keep up for themselves a state and equipage, at his expense, which but ill befit his present circumstances, and tend to involve him still deeper in his pecuniary difficulties."—(Paragraph 7 of Mr. Reid's letter to Captain Pottinger, dated 31st July 1823.)

"The copies of correspondence which I formerly sent you will have informed you of my opinion of the Raja's entire want of veracity, honour, or any other proper feeling; and these sentiments are greatly increased by my finding, from your letter under reply, that the Raja has persisted in employing Balabhaee and Heyat Khan, against whom I myself personally and

in order that, by marrying her to a creature of his own, he might retain and increase the influence he exercised during the time of her father, the late Luxdeer.

55. Should, then, the choice of a husband be left to herself, her unfitness for the Gadee would by no means be remedied by marriage; and although Government might object to any particular individual, yet I know not how it could with propriety interfere so far as to take an active part in the selection.

56. In the will* purporting to be that of the late Raja, two guardians, Sheshadree Shreenewas, and Jungo Sir Patel, are appointed, to make choice of a husband for the Begum, and conduct the affairs of the State until a son is born, and placed on the Gadee.

57. Upon being first made acquainted with the contents of this will, suspicions arose in my mind as to the circumstances under which it had been obtained from the late Raja.

58. With a view of satisfying myself on this point, I elicited, during a conversation with one of the interested parties (Sheshadree Shreenewas), the names of the persons who were to be brought forward as witnesses to the execution of the document, should its validity be questioned. I procured the attendance of all these witnesses, without allowing them to suspect my intentions in so doing, or affording them an opportunity of comparing notes after they had assembled at my Kucheree.

59. Their evidence regarding the execution of the will was, as I expected, *most glaringly contradicting.* This much, however, was established, that the document was drawn up by the two persons nominated as guardians, at a house some forty yards distant from that in which the Raja was lying, and the signature of the deceased obtained without his being made properly acquainted with its contents, and while he must have been in a state of weakness, both of body and mind, rendering him incapable of attending to any business whatever.†

particularly warned him whilst here (at Ahmednuggur), and who are people of the worst character."—(Paragraph 2 of Captain Pottinger's letter to Mr. Reid, dated 23rd September 1823.)

"The man Heyat Khan, Jemadar, I understand acts just as he chooses, without the slightest regard to justice; and I have at this moment a complaint against him for an attack made upon some of Baba Saheb's (the late Raja's) people, three of whom were on the occasion severely wounded."—(Paragraph 3 of Mr. Reeves' letter to Mr. Mills, dated 11th March 1834.)

* The original will was forwarded to Government by the Begum, and a translation forwarded to the Collector of Ahmednuggur, with Mr. Willoughby's letter of 10th January last.

† Years ago, and when even in a state of perfect health, the intellect of the Raja was considered weak in the extreme, as will appear from the following extracts of recorded correspondence:—"The Raja is an unprincipled, debauched, ignorant man, knowing nothing of his own affairs." "He is a person perfectly incapable of acting for himself, being in fact scarcely removed from idiotism."—(10th and 11th paragraphs of letter from Mr. Boyd to Collector of Ahmednuggur, dated 30th June 1825.)

"I have only to remark that it is another instance of that total disregard of truth, justice, and common sense, which I have always experienced in the conduct of this Chief."—(6th

60. Under these circumstances, it may probably occur to Government to set the will aside, and select a Karbaree to assist the Begum in conducting the affairs of the principality; but this course appears to me to be one which would give rise to numerous references, and entail much trouble and annoyance upon Government, while it would be little less distasteful to the Begum and her advisers than the escheatment of the State to the paramount power.

61. The Karbaree, if anxious to perform his duty, would speedily find the Begum opposed to him, as in the matter of her marriage, alluded to in a preceding paragraph, an injudicious expenditure of her revenues, or oppressive conduct towards her subjects; and in this opposition she would be zealously encouraged and supported by the interested and unprincipled advisers who now surround her. Frequent complaints of the Karbaree's conduct would ensue, his measures would be thwarted, and the time of the officer at Nasik taken up in reconciling and investigating these differences, whilst we should fail to attain our object of securing a good Government to the inhabitants of Penth.

62. On the other hand, should His Honour in Council determine upon annexing the State to the British territory, I see no difficulty likely to be experienced in carrying on its administration. So long since as 1825, Mr. Boyd advanced a similar opinion, and stated that "our having charge of the country would be the most effectual means of securing its peace and prosperity, and, consequently, the most advantageous for our neighbouring districts."* While this must be admitted in its full extent, I would observe that the management of the principality must be entrusted to a Native officer, with considerable discretionary power, and that the successful issue of the change would mainly depend on his discretion, honesty, and experience; for, owing to its local position, and comparative insignificance, it will be next to impossible for the European functionaries at Nasik, with their present extensive charges, to visit it in person, or devote much time to the consideration of its affairs.

63. In event of the annexation of the country to the British territory being determined upon, our criminal code might, I conceive, be brought into early operation; and I should be happy to draw up and submit for approval a few simple rules, which my local experience has suggested as most fitting, for the revenue and judicial management of the district in its present condition.

paragraph of letter from Mr. Boyd to the Collector of Ahmednuggur, dated the 22nd March 1827.)

"Which I mention as an example of the incapacity, and almost idiotism of the man, as alluded to by Mr. Boyd.—(2nd paragraph of Mr. Dunlop's letter to Commissioner of the Deccan, dated 20th September 1825.)

* Opinion quoted in Mr. Dunlop's letter to Commissioner of the Deccan, dated 20th September 1825.

THE MOST ELIGIBLE MODE OF PROVISION FOR REJECTED CLAIMANTS.

64. The claim of Nilkunt Rao, as representative of the junior branch of the family, was inquired into by Colonel Pottinger, when Collector of Ahmednuggur, who decided that he should have an annual allowance of Rs. 3,500, of which Rs. 2,000 were to be paid him in cash, and villages, then yielding Rs. 1,500, consigned him on account of the balance.* This award was frequently appealed against by the opposite party; but in the year 1828 Government, after receiving a report on the subject from Captain Pottinger's successor, Mr. Lumsden, decided that the objections brought against the arrangements effected by the former officer were "completely disproved."†

65. Notwithstanding this strong expression of opinion, however, the dispute was the frequent subject of reference from Government to the local authorities, until after the receipt of two detailed reports from the Agent for Sirdars, when Government finally determined on the enforcement of Captain Pottinger's decision.‡ The Mahomedan party still continued to remonstrate, but fruitlessly; Government having, under date 13th June 1835, recorded its determination "that the matter, having been formally and finally settled, cannot be reopened."§

66. Under these circumstances, it would ill become me to canvass the merits of Captain Pottinger's decision, which must of course be upheld. I would, however, strongly urge the necessity of some modification of the arrangements now in force for securing to Nilkunt Rao the allowance decreed him.

67. Mr. Reid, when First Assistant Collector at Nasik, was directed by Captain Pottinger to depute to Penth two clever and trustworthy Karkoons from his own Kucheree, for the purpose of settling, on the spot, the villages which, according to the terms of his decision, noticed in a preceding paragraph,‖ were to be handed over to Nilkunt Rao in lieu of Rs. 1,500 of his allowance; and of which villages he (Nilkunt Rao) was to have "the exclusive management and benefit."

68. In executing these instructions, Mr. Reid was most careful to select villages of which he could assign every item of revenue to Nilkunt Rao, in order to prevent any motive or plea for interference on the part of the Raja.¶

69. Like judicious precautions, however, were not taken on a subsequent

* Captain Pottinger's letter to Mr. Reid, dated 7th May 1823.

† Government letter to Agent for Sirdars, dated 9th May 1828.

‡ Letter from Agent for Sirdars to Government, dated 1st November 1830; Government to Agent for Sirdars, 22nd April 1831; Government to Collector of Ahmednuggur, 27th April 1832; Government to Collector of Ahmednuggur, 11th May 1832; Government to Agent for Sirdars, 11th May 1832; Agent for Sirdars to Government, 28th October 1833; Government to Collector of Ahmednuggur, 9th December 1833.

§ Government to Collector and Magistrate of Ahmednuggur.

‖ Vide paragraph 62. ¶ Vide Appendix D.

occasion, when additional villages, in lieu of the cash payments which had been withheld by the Raja, were assigned to Nilkunt Rao, by order of Government.

70. In the instance alluded to, Mr. Reeves was directed to attach villages yielding an annual revenue of Rs. 3,000,* and, for this purpose, a Vukeel of one of the Moonsiff's Courts was deputed to Penth, receiving his pay from Nilkunt Rao, an interested party. This Vukeel, who was but little conversant with revenue details, omitted the precaution, taken by Mr. Reid, of including, in his valuation of the villages selected, all the items of revenue; and consequently, as might have been anticipated, the omitted items were continued to be collected by the Raja, and the opening for interference in the management of the villages thus occasioned proved a fertile source of dispute between the two rival parties.

71. In forwarding complaints from Nilkunt Rao on this subject, Mr. Reeves took occasion to point out to the Collector the degree in which his settlement differed from that of Mr. Reid, and recommended, in order to save Nilkunt Rao from what he considered "unwarrantable interference" on the part of the Raja, that the latter should be prohibited from levying the omitted items of revenue for the future.†

72. I cannot ascertain, from the Nasik records, that Mr. Reeves received any reply to this reference; but last July, when reporting on a petition presented to Government by Nilkunt Rao, Mr. Harrison recommended that the Raja of Penth should be interdicted exercising interference, or levying any taxes whatever, in the villages assigned to Nilkunt Rao,‡ a recommendation in which Government concurred.§

73. Copy of these instructions was forwarded to me for my guidance, but I have delayed acting on them under the impression that Government, when made aware of the right which the late Raja had to the collection of all the items omitted in Mr. Reeves' settlement, would cancel this prohibitory order, and either permit the party on whom the possessions of the late Luxdeer may

* Rs. 2,000 on account of the cash payment awarded by Captain Pottinger, and Rs. 1,000 to be held for a limited period on account of arrears.—(Vide Government letters to Collector of Ahmednuggur, dated 27th April and 10th May 1832, and 9th December 1833; letter from First Assistant Principal Collector of Ahmednuggur in charge to Government, 24th February 1832; letters from Collector of Ahmednuggur to Mr. Reeves and Government, 29th July 1834; Government to Collector of Ahmednuggur, 22nd August 1834; Collector of Ahmednuggur to Government, 1st September 1834; Mr. Reeves to Collector, 12th September 1834; Magistrate to Government, 18th September 1834; Government to Collector of Ahmednuggur, 25th September and 7th October 1834; Mr. Reeves to Collector, 25th October 1834; Collector to Mr. Reeves, 3rd November 1834; Government to Collector, 20th November 1834; Mr. Dallas to Assistant in charge, 24th November 1834; Assistant in charge to Mr. Dallas, 4th December 1834; Mr. Reeves to Collector, 10th February 1835.)

† Vide Appendix E.

‡ Report No. 1004, dated 31st July 1838.

§ Government to Collector of Ahmednuggur, 12th October 1838.

devolve to continue the levy of those items, or, which would be a better arrangement still, and prevent all occasion of future dispute, restore to the Raja's successor part of the villages now held by Nilkunt Rao, upon condition that the former gave up all claim whatever upon the revenues, or interference with the management of the remainder.

74. At the same time Nilkunt Rao should be *made* to furnish most satisfactory security for the regular payment of the allowance* assigned from his revenues to his sister-in-law Kumlabaee by Captain Pottinger, and confirmed by Government.† At present this poor woman is put to great straits by her allowance falling in arrears, and the Government officers to great trouble and inconvenience by the necessity of attaching villages in order to secure even a payment in part.

75. In event, however, of His Honour in Council determining that the possessions of the late Raja have escheated to Government, I would suggest, as necessary to the peace and security of the district, that a resumption be also made of the whole of the villages now held by Nilkunt Rao, who, with his sister-in-law Kumlabaee, might receive their allowances in cash.

76. Soorujkoor, as a member of the family, now enjoys a village, and some petty items of revenue from other sources. These should of course be continued, or, should the district be taken possession of by the Honorable Company, an allowance in money be paid her in lieu of them.

77. It has been already stated,‡ that about Rs. 13 or Rs. 14 per mensem were allowed by the late Luxdeer for the support of his daughter the Begum; and I am of opinion, that should Government decide against her claims to the principality, a life pension of Rs. 50 per mensem would form a suitable provision. Anything granted in excess would probably be squandered on those surrounding her, without adding to her own comfort or respectability.

Right of exacting Nuzurana.

78. A heavy Nuzurana§ was exacted by the Peshwa in A. D. 1790, in consideration of removing an attachment which had been placed on the principality, in consequence of the rebellious conduct displayed by the then Raja. But it does not appear, on referring to the state papers at Poona, or from local inquiry, that Nuzurana has ever been levied by the Muratha Government on the accession of a Raja to the Penth Gadee. Should, then, the *right* of the Begum to succeed be admitted, Government is precluded, by the rules laid down in the Honorable Court's despatch of the 5th September 1832, from levying Nuzurana in the present instance. But should, on the other hand, the *title* of the Begum be disallowed, and Government, as an *act of*

* Rs. 15 per mensem.

† Letters from Captain Pottinger to Mr. Reid, 7th and 12th August 1823; and Government to Mr. Mills, 18th October 1834.

‡ Vide paragraph 53.

§ Rs. 1,25,000; vide paragraphs 7 and 8.

grace, award to her the principality, I am of opinion that Núzurána should be exacted with a view of preserving intact the rights of the paramount State, and preventing this being adduced as a precedent for a female succeeding as a matter of course.

RIGHT OF INTERFERENCE WITH THE MANAGEMENT OF THE DISTRICT.

79. In the 5th paragraph of his letter dated the 20th November last, Sir Robert Arbuthnot observes, that "as we possess the Surdeshmookhee and Mokassa Umuls, to which the right of Government is usually attached throughout his (the late Raja's) villages, we have, in my opinion, an undoubted right to the civil and criminal jurisdiction of the country in which they are situated."

80. It is unnecessary to go into any detail in disproof of this opinion, as Government is of course aware of the nature and origin of these Umuls, which convey to their possessor no right of jurisdiction whatever. We hold them in the territories of Sindia, and other perfectly independent princes, who, again, possess them in ours. We also hold them in the territories of the petty Rajas of Mandavee, Dhurumpoor, and Bansda, as well as other chieftains, with whom we never interfere, except politically, as the paramount power.

81. In the instance, however, of *Penth*, Government and its officers appear to have at different times entertained very conflicting opinions regarding the right of interference.

In 1822, Government authorised the Collector of Ahmednuggur to place the country under an agent of his own, and adopt such measures as he might deem requisite, for obliging the Raja to fulfil the obligations of every member of society, unless he (the Raja) in future conducted himself in a more creditable manner, by adhering to his agreements, and making at least some attempt to satisfy his numerous creditors.

In 1826, when the local officers were desirous of consolidating the Raja's numerous debts, Government expressed itself ready to guarantee any respectable person who might be willing to advance the necessary funds upon a mortgage of the district, and, in event of no person consenting to do so on reasonable terms, Government appear to have contemplated discharging itself the Raja's debts, and taking for a period the management of the country into its own hands.

In the following year the Raja and his creditors were informed that "the British Government did not feel itself called on to interfere in any manner in their pecuniary affairs."

In September 1823, the Commissioner for the Deccan decided that "the Raja should be prohibited from levying duties upon such goods passing through his country as were exempted in the Company's territories;† and Mr.

* Letter to Collector of Ahmednuggur.

† The Raja refused to comply with this requisition, unless compensated for the loss he would sustain; and here the matter appears to have rested.

Reid was directed by Captain Pottinger to fine and punish any (of the Raja's) persons found disobeying this order."

In 1825, on the occasion of a writ being issued by the Supreme Court to arrest the Raja for debt, contracted in Bombay, Mr. Boyd stated as his opinion, and took evidence to prove, that "the Raja had always been considered as a free and independent prince, and that he was acknowledged as such by the British Government, and by all Native powers."

In 1828, the Raja's name was entered in the list of First Class Sirdars, and he was consequently rendered subject to the jurisdiction of the Agent.

In 1831, he was permitted to withdraw his name from the privileged class, without being placed under the authority of the Principal Collector or Judge of Ahmednuggur, except for the purpose of having the instructions of Government regarding the dispute with Nilkunt Rao carried into effect.

In 1832, when answering a petition regarding some Inam villages, presented by one Naroo Trimbuk Gorbhole, Government stated that the Penth Raja was placed in August 1831 under the authority of the Collector of Ahmednuggur.

In the same year, Government observed, with reference to the petition of some Surat merchants, who were plundered whilst passing through the Penth territory *en route* to Hyderabad, that the Raja "is independent, and as the petitioners entered his territories in the character of merchants, to sell jewels, they did so at their own risk."

In 1834, Government directed full restitution to be made to some Jaulna camp followers, whose bullocks had been detained while passing through the Penth territories, and subsequently enforced the execution of this order by an attachment of part of the Raja's revenues.

On the 9th August of that very year, Government states that the Raja having been declared independent, "it would not appear necessary for the paramount State to interfere, unless the quarrels of the family came to such a height, or the internal administration of the country was so defective, that the territories of the British Government were likely to be disturbed."

In the same year Government entertained, and forwarded to the Judge of Ahmednuggur, for his report, the petition of a servant of the Raja, who complained of being unjustly kept in prison at Penth.

In the following year Government remark, on a request of the Raja that he "may not be considered under the jurisdiction of the Judges and Collectors," that he is no longer "a Sirdar of the First Class; but being politically subject to the British Government, as his sovereign paramount, he may be dealt with, by local authority, without intending unnecessarily to interfere with the domestic arrangements of his petty State."*

* Vide letters from Captain Pottinger to Mr. Chaplin and Mr. Reid, dated 10th December 1822; Mr. Chaplin to Captain Pottinger, 20th December 1822, 7th May, 27th September, and 11th October 1823; Mr. Boyd to Mr. Dunlop, 23rd December 1825, and Mr. Chaplin 5th

82. As regards the extent of authority assumed by the Muratha Government, I find among the state papers at Poona a document containing several propositions regarding the internal administration of Penth, submitted by Chimnajee Raja for the approval of the Peshwa. But this cannot be construed into "interference" on the part of the paramount authority, as these propositions originated with the Raja himself, and were made at a time when an Agent of the Peshwa was about to be stationed at Penth for the nine years allowed for liquidating the Nuzurana and debt noticed in paragraph 8.

83. After a consideration of the several instances adduced, and the circumstances of the district, it appears to me that the degree of interference which, in event of the principality being made over to the Begum, it would be proper and expedient to exercise, has been well defined by Government and Mr. Blane in the following passages :—

2nd and 3rd Paragraphs of Government Letter to Collector of Ahmednuggur, dated 2nd May 1834.—"Many of the grand thoroughfares between the countries below and above the Ghats lead through petty States, who, though not amenable to the British Government for their domestic arrangements, are yet so as tributaries or dependent States, in which relation they stand to the British Government as they formerly did to the Peshwa.

"Under this view, any person entering the country of a petty prince, so situated, for the purpose of residing there for objects of trade, for service, &c. must put up with whatever inconvenience he may be subjected to from such intercourse, and he has no legitimate claim on the British Government for redress of any grievance ; but if the stranger is merely a passenger, as in the present case, any molestation or hindrance may be rectified by our interposition as the paramount authority, which is bound to protect the highways, or there will be interruption to commerce, which must be supported."*

March 1826 ; Mr. Boyd to Mr. Dunlop, 30th June 1825 ; Mr. Dunlop to Commissioner, 20th September 1825; Government to Commissioner, 6th June 1826; Government to Collector of Ahmednuggur, and Persian Secretary, 27th February 1827; Government to Agent for Sirdars, 23rd April 1828, and 3rd April and 11th June 1831 ; Agent to Government, 1st November 1830, and July 1831 (No. 88) ; Government to ——, 2nd August 1831, and to Deputy Agent, 8th August 1831 ; Mr. Andrews to Collector of Ahmednuggur, 16th October 1832 ; Mr. Townsend's translations of the Right Honorable the Governor in Council's order of 12th November 1831, on Murathee Yad presented to Government by Naroo Trimbuk Gorbhole; Major Robertson's letter to Government, 3rd October 1831 ; Mr. Townsend's letter to Government, 1st November 1832; Mr. Andrews' letter to Magistrate of Ahmednuggur, 9th January 1832 ; Government to First Assistant of Ahmednuggur, in charge, 13th February 1832; Collector to Mr. Dallas, 6th August 1834 ; Collector to Government, 14th and 22nd July, and 17th September 1834 ; Collector to Mr. Reeves, 13th October 1834 ; Government to Collector of Ahmednuggur, 2nd May, 4th and 9th August, and 7th October 1834, and 12th June 1835 ; Judge of Ahmednuggur to Magistrate, 31st December 1833.

* In the same letter, Government directs the Collector of Ahmednuggur "to on all occasions, until amendment shall take place in the administration of Penth, warn all British subjects of the insecurity of property in Penth, and caution them against residing in that territory,

Extract from Paragraph 5 *of Mr. Blane's Letter to Mr. Goldsmid, dated* 8*th April* 1839.—"The British Government may be assumed to possess the right of interference appertaining to the paramount sovereignty, but the exercise of it is avoided as much as possible, as leading only to profitless embarrassment; and it is solely, therefore, in cases when their acts have a tendency to disturb the peace of the neighbourhood, that any cognisance of them is deemed necessary."

84. Before concluding, it may be as well to mention that although the Penth District contains one hundred villages, or their *sites*, and its Kumal is estimated at Rs. 38,770, its present revenues, after deducting Rs. 3,500 payable to Government, and the villages made over to Nilkunt Rao, &c., amounted last year only to Rs. 9,392-6-0; although, to quote the words of Mr. Boyd, "I have not the least doubt but that, under proper management, the collections might be considerably enlarged, and the situation of the people at the same time materially bettered."

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,

Superintendent Revenue Survey, Nasik District.

Poona, 21*st September* 1839.

informing them that Government will not interfere for their protection." A proclamation to this effect was issued by the Collector of Ahmednuggur, and read out at the different bazars held throughout the Nasik district.

APPENDIX A.

Translation of the Paper given at Poona, in A. D. 1772, *by* CHIMNAJEE DULPUT RAO, *to* PURWUT SING, *as mentioned in paragraph* 24 *of the foregoing Report.*

On the 7th of Jésht Shood, 1694, Chimnajee Dulput Rao, son of Luxdeer, son of Chimnajee, son of Luxdeer, of the Suwusthan of Penth, and of Mahaja, under the Government of Buglana, writes to Purwut Sing, son of Mohun Sing, son of Rutton Sing, son of Ram Dulwee, as follows:—

Our original ancestor was Krushna, who had three sons, Luxdeer, Ram Dulwee, and Bheek Dulwee. Of these, the race of Bheek Dulwee became extinct, while Luxdeer and Ram Dulwee were seized and taken to Delhi, by the Emperor Alumgeer, who converted them both to the Musulman faith, and gave to them the Suwusthan Sahnak.*

On the return of both brothers to the Suwusthan, they prepared documents, dividing it between them in equal portions.

In consequence of the family of Luxdeer accompanying him to Delhi, they were converted; but the wife of Ram Dulwee, with her two sons, went to the house of her parents, therefore they remained in the Hindoo faith.

You are of his lineage, and a half share is yours. The sons of Luxdeer were Kookajee, Chimnajee, and Nunoo Meeah. Of these, Kookajee was the eldest son, and had no issue; and he therefore adopted Huree Sing, your paternal uncle, who was the youngest son of Ram Dulwee's eldest son Rutton Dulwee, and made him master of his half portion of the principality. Subsequent to this, on the death of Kookajee, my grandfather Chimnajee imagined that the whole principality would revert to your branch, and he therefore sent Huree Sing back to Rutton Dulwee, and, by violence, began to assume the whole principality; consequently Rutton Dulwee's two sons, Mohun Sing and Huree Sing, went to Abhoona. Subsequently Rutton Dulwee himself died at the Suwusthan, and my grandfather, Chimnajee, also died; on which my father Luxdeer conferred with and brought your father, Mohun Sing, from Abhoona, to the Suwusthan, at which time he promised, through the agency of Baboo Rao Damodhur, and Nurhur Weelyadur, that as soon as he should arrive at the Suwusthan, he would prepare and give him the Sunud of his half share. This settlement having been effected, they came to the Suwusthan.

* Sahnak is an Arabic word, signifying a plate or dish. Its meaning here is *irrevocably given*, derived from an oriental saying that it is impossible to take back either the dish or contents after having given a dog the refuse of your meal in it.—*T. Goodine.*

Serjeant Goodine here gives the meaning of the term "Chandeh Sahnak." Sahnak alone bears the signification given in the note appended to paragraph 4 of my report.—H. E. G.

After this, the Kolees at Hursool rebelled, and your father, Mohun Sing, and Nunoo Meeah went to punish them, and the former was slain in the battle that ensued.

At this time, my father Luxdeer paid great attention to your mother, and gave her the Sunud of half the Purguna of Hursool; but you were then a lad of two years old, therefore the management was not carried on separately (from my ancestor's portion).

My father brought you up in the same style in which he lived himself, besides which he gave your mother two small villages. He subsequently for a certain time received your services as Karbaree of the Suwusthan. During this time some calamity befel your eyes, therefore I ceased to allow you the means which I had formerly done, and prevented you from receiving anything from the villages of your mother. You therefore repaired to Shreemunt Rajashree Punt Prudhan Saheb. On *this*, I began to examine the condition of our State, and found that, in consequence of the receipts being small, and Sebundee and fort expenses heavy, with various demands from the Durbar, that the principality had become considerably involved.

From this view of our home affairs I entreated you to desist, and agreed with you, through Rajaram Nurhur, and Krishna Rao Kookajee, that I would keep two-thirds of the principality and Mahaja, meeting the expenditure on account of the fort and Sebundees; and that you should have the remainder, paying out of your share one-third of Soukaree debts contracted by my father, and that you and your descendants, according to the ancient custom of the family, perform the delegated duties of Karbaree; that the respect of seniority should be mine; that I should use the royal signet, and you the small official seal, without which latter the duties should not be performed.

The villages of your one-third share comprise, with the exception of five Inam villages, all the south margin of the Downia river; these, with one-third of Kusba Penth, are yours, as follows:—

1. Sigona.
2. Koleewada.
3. Dolar Mal.
4. Wagh Baree.
5. Sassanna.
6. Bovayagaon.
7. Adh Budrook.
8. Theel Bhat.
9. Sambar Padha.
10. Bhoowun.
11. Kahore.
12. Rokun Baree.
13. Taincha Padha.
14. Gawud.
15. Sing Daree.
16. Bhow Padha.
17. Abhettee.
18. Raitulla.
19. Mankapoor.
20. Dungur Sheat.
21. Pimpulwada.
22. Ghatt Weheer.
23. (A blank space left in the original Murathee.)

The above twenty-three mentioned villages, with their Patelships, Naikships, residences of Bheels, small and deserted habitations, with all Koolbah, Kool Kanoo, Kangat, Thulbhureet,* and transit duties; besides these the third of

* For explanations of these terms, see note to Appendix B.

the Kusba tax, with its produce, customs, fines, Phoorphooree, bazar tax, Kotullee Daramut Baramut, Bazar Baitik, Sew Subjee, oil and tobacco, &c., also a third of Jamour, Khambalee, Ghobudharee, Ambolee, Mal, and Awunkool; these and the twenty-three villages as above stated I give to you with my own free will and pleasure. Besides these, do you and your descendants enjoy the three following Jageer villages of your mother, viz. Moujé Neergoond, Moujé Chulmook, Moujé Palsee, together with the hereditary Patelships of Mahaja; and do you and your descendants defend and preserve the principality.

Should I or any of my descendants deviate from this, may the curse of his family god, of his own religion, of his ancestors of the true faith, and God's Prophet, be upon him.

Despatched the 1*st of Rubee-ool-Awul, Sun Sullasin Maya-o-Ollapah, Sun* 1182 *Fuslee.*

(Signed at Poona) CHIMNAJEE DULPUT RAO,
Raja Suwusthan Penth.
Clerk RAJARAM NURHUR DEWAN,
Vukeel of Suwusthan.

Witnesses.

1. KRISHNA RAO KOOKAJEE,
Turuf Kapoolee, Mallegaon, District Penth,
in the Province of Buglana.
2. SONAJEE NAROTUM,
Deshpandé of the Province of Buglana.

(True translation)
(Signed) R. GOODINE.

(True copy)
(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Superintendent Revenue Survey.

APPENDIX B.

Translation of the Paper given at Penth, in A. D. 1801, *as mentioned in Paragraph* 27 *of the accompanying Report.*

On the 1st of Jésht Shood, Shuké 1723, Luxdeer Dulput Rao Raja, son of Chimnajee, son of Luxdeer, son of Chimnajee, of the Suwusthan of Penth, and of Mahaja, under the Government of Buglana, writes to Mohun Sing, son of Heemut Sing, son of Purwut Sing, son of Mohun Sing (?) Dulwee as follows.

The rights of brotherhood were handed down to my father Chimnajee Dulput Rao, and your grandfather Purwut Sing Dulwee, by their ancestors; but subsequently, in consequence of some quarrel taking place, they both went to Shreemunt Rajashree Mahadeo Rao Bulal Punt Prudhan Saheb, at Poona, where they received an order to divide, according to the customary usage of our family, the Suwusthan equally between them; on which they settled the division at Poona, through Rajaram Nurhur Dewan, Krishnajee Rao Kookajee, and the Vukeels of the Suwusthan, to which place they then returned.

This settlement continued in force for two years, when a quarrel again arose. Your ancestor Purwut Sing went to Bassein, and my father began to govern alone; after which, Dhondo Mahadeo Subedar created a disturbance in the Suwusthan, attacked it, and imprisoned my father and his family for fourteen years in the fort of Trimbuk. The Karbaree of the Suwusthan then went to the Durbar of Shreemunt Rajashree Mahadeo Rao Narayen Punt Prudhan Saheb, and by great exertions procured the release of my father and the Suwusthan.

At this time the expenses incurred in Nuzur to the Sirkar, and Durbar presents, were two lakhs and twenty-five thousand rupees (Rs. 2,25,000), for one lakh of which, payable to the Sirkar, Soukar security was given, and he (?) returned. My father reigned seven years, and then died.

The intelligence of his death reaching your father, Heemut Sing, who was then at Poona, engaged some people, and came to the Suwusthan; at which time Rajashree Pandoorung Dhondojee came with his retinue, and imprisoned your father, me, and my mother, in the fort of Trimbuk.

Your paternal uncle, Jaiwunt Rao, becoming acquainted with this, applied to Shreemunt Rajashree Bajee Rao Rugoonath Punt Prudhan Saheb, who caused the Suwusthan to be attached. He also brought a warrant for Heemut Sing to be sent to Poona. But Pandoorung Dhondeo, paying no attention to the Sunud of the Sirkar, went again with his retinue, rendered ineffectual the Government attachment of the Suwusthan, and administered its affairs for five months.

The Suwusthan Karbarees then went to Trimbuk, and informed Pandoorung Dhondeo, that in consequence of the quarrels between the Chieftain brothers, the Suwusthan was going to ruin; that much injury had already been done, and that much more would be suffered. They therefore implored him to release Heemut Sing, to put an end to the quarrel, and settle the affairs of the Suwusthan. He consequently released Heemut Sing, and the discussion and the settlement were to have taken place; but previous to this Heemut Sing fell sick and died.

At the time Jaiwunt Rao was at Poona, when I and the Karbaree sent Antojee Narayen Muratha as mediator, and brought him to the Suwusthan. You and I having an interview, we considered that, in consequence of the quarrels of our house, our whole estate on each side had been ruined, and that

nothing then remained. From this conviction we examined the documents of our ancestors, which had been mutually prepared at Poona, according to which my ancestors had promised and arranged through Ramchunder Bulal Kallee, belonging to the Sirkar of Shreemunt Rajashree Punt Prudhan, that you (your branch) should take one-third, and preserve the Suwusthan. The villages which my ancestor had given are in the south margin of Downai river. I also with my free will and pleasure give them to you ; they are as follows :—

1. Sigona.
2. Koleewada.
3. Dolar Mal.
4. Wagh Baree.
5. Sassanna.
6. Bovayagaon.
7. Adh Budrook.
8. Theel Bhat.
9. Sambar Padha.
10. Bhoowun.
11. Kahore.
12. Rukun Baree.
13. Taincha Padha.
14. Gawud.
15. Sing Daree.
16. Bhow Padha.
17. Abhettee.
18. Raitulla.
19. Mankapoor.
20. Dungur Sheat.
21. Pimpulwada.
22. Ghatt Weheer.
23. (A blank space left in the original Murathee.)

The abovementioned twenty-three villages, with their Patelships, Naikships, residences of Bheels, small hamlets, and all deserted habitations, all Koolbah,* Kool Kanoo,† Kangat,‡ Thulbhureet,§ and transit duties and customs; besides these, the third part of the produce of Kusba Phail, with its custom tributes, fines, bazar tax, Kotullee Daramut Baramut,‖ Bazar Baitik,¶ inclusive of Sew Subjee,** oil, and tobacco, and also a third of Jamour, Khambalee, Ghobudharee, Ambolee, Mal, and Awunkool; these, and the twenty-three mentioned villages, I give with my own free will and pleasure. And besides these the three following Jageer villages, of your great-grandmother Aowbaee, Moujé Neergoond, Moujé Chulmook, and Moujé Palsee, and the hereditary Patelships of Mahaja, which your descendants shall enjoy, and preserve the principality.

You shall also defray a third of the debts of my ancestor, with a third of those just now connected with the Suwusthan; also one-third of the Muslut (law) expenses.

You and your descendants, as heretofore, shall perform the delegated Karbareeship.

The respect of seniority shall be mine; you shall use the official seal, and I the royal signet.

* *Koolbah*, a description of perquisite or Huk, from the Arabic work *Kool*, all, and *bah*, articles.

† *Kool Kanoo*, ditto ditto, and *Kanoo*, customs.

‡ *Kangat*, money derived from mines and quarries.

§ *Thulbhureet*, tax levied on articles in the town from which they are exported.

‖ *Kotullee Daramut Baramut*, tax levied on all imports, from whatever place.

¶ *Bazar Baitik*, tax on vendors who sit in the bazar.

** *Sew Subjee*, tax in hand, levied from the stock of traders.

Should I, or any of my descendants, or any other person, cause any difference in this, may the curse of his family god, of his own religion, of his ancestors of the true faith, and God's Prophet, be upon him.

Soorsun Mayatain-o-Ooliph, 29th Mohurum, Fuslee.

(Signed as above.) Written by LUXDEER DULPUT RAO,
Raja Suwusthan Penth.
Clerk RAMJEE RAJARAM, Witness.

(True translation)
(Signed) R. GOODINE.

(True copy)
(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Superintendent Revenue Survey.

APPENDIX C. (VIDE PARAGRAPH 49.)

To R. K. PRINGLE, Esq., Acting Collector, Tanna.

SIR,—Having been authorised by Government to correspond direct with officers from whom I may require information on any points connected with the inquiry I am at present conducting as to the right of succession to the Penth Gadee, I have the honour to request that you will oblige me with answers to the following queries, so as to enable me to quote, in my report to Government, precedents brought forward by the several claimants to this principality :—

I.—Have, during either the former or British Governments, any of the Jowar Rajas died without male issue ; if so, did a female succeed to the estate (which is, I believe, under your Agency), or was the female, however nearly related, passed over in favour of a more distant *kinsman?*

II.—In event of a female having ever succeeded to the estate, what relation was she to the deceased Raja, and did she succeed in consequence of there being no male relations, near or distant, or merely in consequence of there being no male heir in the *direct line?*

III.—Was the female married (either previous or subsequent to her being placed on the Gadee) ; if so, was her husband vested with the power of Raja, or did she, as far as public matters might be concerned, continue, to the last, to be recognised as head of the principality ?

IV.—Was the widow of a Raja, who died without sons, permitted to adopt ; and, if so, was it to the prejudice of female *issue,* as well as *distant* male relations, or only when her husband had left neither sons nor daughters to succeed him ?

V.—Was the adoption, by a widow, only sanctioned in cases where the husband had, in his lifetime, expressed an intention of adopting ?*

VI.—Should it never so have happened that a Raja of Jowar has died without male issue, still you would perhaps be so kind as to inform me if, in event of such hereafter happening, the estate would,

1*st*,—Escheat to the British Government; or

2*nd*,—Be inherited by the nearest male relative, to the prejudice even of females in the direct line? or,

3*rd*,—Descend to the nearest relative, without any reference as to sex ?

VII.—What share of the revenues of Jowar is received by the British Government, and under what head is it drawn ?

VIII.—Is the Raj held conditionally on the performance of certain service for the paramount authority ; if so, what service ?

IX.—You would also, perhaps, inform me as to the extent of our right of interference in the affairs of Jowar, both in police and in revenue matters; whether, as regards the former, you would consider yourself authorised to call upon the Raja for a reply to any complaint which might be preferred to you by one of his own subjects of grossly unjust treatment, or do you consider yourself empowered only to take cognisance of such misconduct as would, in

* A perusal of letters, of which the following are copies, led to my putting this question :—

17*th September* 1839. Superintendent Revenue Survey.

To Captain H. POTTINGER, Collector, &c., Ahmednuggur.

SIR,—In addition to the restrictions already in force regarding adoption by widows, I have the honour to request that in all ordinary cases, even when the claim of the widow shall be found in other respects admissible, she be required to prove that her husband had either himself declared his intention to make the adoption proposed, or had desired her to adopt. This principle is to be observed as a general rule, subject to such special exceptions as Government may see fit to authorise.

I have, &c.

Poona, 17*th October* 1822. (Signed) W. CHAPLIN.

To Captain H. D. ROBERTSON, Collector, &c., Poona.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 15th instant, enclosing a petition from Saloobaee kom Moondeekur, to adopt a son. In respect to adoptions generally, I have the honour to inform you, that a plurality of the Jageers in the Deccan are to be resumed on the death of the present incumbents, and that in regard to other Jageers, adoptions ought only to be permitted to give a claim to the succession in very peculiar cases, such as Padshahee Jageers, and a few others. Adoptions by widows having been never admitted by Bajee Rao (or at least very rarely so), must not be allowed with a view to the succession to land of any sort, but may be granted with a limitation to personal property, under the usual formalities of public notification, the sanction of Hindoo law, and your own express permission. Inams, however, being grants of a permanent nature, Inamdars, with the above exceptions of widows, may be allowed to adopt with a view to the succession to that species of property.

I have, &c.

Poona, 17*th September* 1821. (Signed) W. CHAPLIN.

your opinion, have a tendency to disturb the peace of the neighbouring districts belonging to the Honorable Company; And, as regards revenue matters,—in 1823, the Collector of Ahmednuggur decided, after obtaining the opinion of the Commissioner of the Deccan, that the Raja of Penth was to prohibit duties being taken on all goods passing through his country which are exempted in the Company's territories; would such minute interference with its internal management be warranted in the Jowar district?

X.—Was any Nuzurana levied, under the former Government, when a Raja succeeded to the Gadee, and is such exacted under our rule?

2. In the above ten queries, I have referred only to Jowar, as I am not aware of any other petty principalities being under your Agency; but should there be, you would, perhaps, oblige me with similar information regarding them.

3. I understand that some years since Mr. Langford made an inquiry as to the right of succession, then disputed, to the Jowar Gadee; the documents recorded by that gentleman may probably afford much of the required information.

4. I trust you will pardon me, both for troubling you with the reference, and also requesting that you favour me with an early reply. Government have directed me to conduct the inquiry in which I am engaged with all possible expedition; and I therefore should feel particularly obliged by your favouring me with as early an answer as you conveniently can despatch.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Assistant Collector, employed on Special Duty.

Penth, 29*th March* 1839.

Copies of this reference were forwarded to the Collector of Khandesh and Agent of Surat, with a request that they would furnish similar information regarding the different petty principalities under their Agency. The following are transcripts of the replies received.

To H. E. GOLDSMID, Esq., Assistant Collector, employed on Special Duty.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ultimo, requesting information on various points of law and policy in our relations with petty States, connected with this district.

2. With reference to your first five queries, it has not happened during our Government that a Raja of Jowar has died without leaving male issue, nor do I find that such has occurred at any previous period.

3. With regard to the course that might be adopted in such an event, I am not prepared to offer any opinion, never having had occasion to give my attention to it; but I presume it would be determined under the orders of

Government, by such considerations of justice and policy as circumstances might dictate at the time.

4. No share of the revenues of Jowar belongs to the British Government, nor is the State held under any conditions of service.

5. No interference is exercised by our Government in the internal administration of the Jowar State; and although cases might undoubtedly arise to call for such interference, yet they must be very extreme to justify it, and the course I should then adopt would, in the first instance, be that of remonstrance, and, failing that, a reference to Government.

6. A Nuzur of Rs. 1,000 used to be levied on succession to the Gadee, but it was excused by Mr. Marriott in the case of the present Raja, on account of poverty, and with a reservation of the right of Government.

7. Mr. Langford's mission was not to determine the right of succession, but for the adjustment of a dispute regarding maintenance between the widows of the late Raja.

8. Besides the State of Jowar, the Political Agency of those of Angria and the Hubshee are attached to this Collectorate, but I am not aware of anything, in our relations with these, on the points to which your inquiries are directed, differing materially from what I have stated respecting the Jowar Raja.

I have, &c.
(Signed) R. K. PRINGLE,
Acting Collector.

Tanna, Collector's District Kucheree, Mahim, 12th April 1839.

To H. E. GOLDSMID, Esq., Assistant Collector, on Special Duty, Nasik.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 29th ultimo, with accompaniment, requesting information connected with an inquiry as to the right of succession to the Penth Gadee.

2. The Mewasee Principalities subject to the Khandesh jurisdiction, both from their inferior class, and the barbarous and unsettled state of their affairs for many years past, are not, I fear, likely to furnish precedents of much value. For the same reasons, the means of ascertaining the actual course of events are also very deficient.

3. I have forwarded a copy of your letter to Captain Graham,* who is now employed on the Dang frontier, requesting him to communicate direct any information he can obtain regarding the rules of succession amongst the Chiefs of that district;† but such is their present barbarism that I can hardly anticipate that they will be able to comprehend an inquiry of this nature.

* I have received memoranda from Captain Graham, but they afford no precedent for females, situated as the present claimants are, succeeding to the Gadee of a petty principality.

† The right of succession, pedigree, &c. is, perhaps, one of the only subjects to which they do give their attention, and the various grades and distinctions connected with the subject are generally most minutely minded by them.

4. In this neighbourhood are the petty Rajas of Akranee and Bodawul, and the Mehwasee Chiefs of the Wusawa* family. To these I have proposed the questions mooted in your letter, and they promise to give me replies after due consideration, which I shall forward the instant they are received.

5. In the interim, to meet your anxiety for an early reply, I proceed to answer the queries relating to their connection with the British Government.

No. VII.—No share of the revenues of these petty States is received by Government; the Chiefs, on the contrary, possessing certain claims and Huks in the neighbouring districts subject to the British rule.

No. VIII.—Their estates are not held on any conditions; but a certain police responsibility is attached to the receipt of the abovementioned Huks, which are a species of blackmail for security against predatory incursions.

No. IX.—The British Government may be assumed to possess the right of interference appertaining to the paramount sovereignty, but the exercise of it is avoided as much as possible, as leading only to profitless embarrassment; and it is solely, therefore, in cases when their acts have a tendency to disturb the peace of the neighbourhood, that any cognisance of them is deemed necessary.

No. X.—No Nuzurana on succession is now levied, nor do I believe it was ever paid to any former Governments.

I have, &c.
(Signed) D. A. Blane,
Collector.

Khandesh Collector's Office, Camp Shadah,
8th April 1839.

No. 23 of 1839.

Political Department.

To H. E. Goldsmid, Esq., Assistant Collector,
Employed on Special Duty at Penth, Nasik.

Sir,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter, with enclosure, of the 29th ultimo, I have the honour to forward the following answers to your queries.

I.—The States of Mandvee, Bansda, Dhurumpoor, and Sucheen are under this Agency. In the States of Mandvee and Bansda, the Rajas have died without male issue, and females were not permitted to succeed.

II. and III.—There is no instance of a female having succeeded to either of the States under my superintendence.

IV.—Widows of the Rajas dying without male issue are permitted to adopt a son from the nearest of kin, who is entitled to succeed, to the exclusion of female issue.

V.—It could be done in both cases, first, by the express wish of her

* Wusawa is the general term in the Dang for the head of a Bheel or Kolee clan; it is not the name of a particular family.

husband before his death, and secondly, at the wish of the widow or widows of the Raja, and all the members of the family who are thus bound by law.

VI.—Should it have happened that a Raja died without male issue, the State would not escheat to the British Government; the State would be ruled by a person adopted from among the Raja's nearest relations, with the sanction of Government.

VII.—The following are the shares of revenue received by the British Government from the States under this Agency:—

1*st.*—From the Mandvee State Rs. 60,000. This fixed amount is levied under Article IV. of the Treaty of Bassein, which was enforced under a compact with the Raja dated the 17th January 1810.

2*nd.*—From the State of Dhurumpoor Rs. 9,000. This fixed amount, called the Chouth of Dhurumpoor, is levied under the same Treaty, and it is therein valued at Rs. 9,000, but is variable, being chiefly made up of land customs collected by us in the Raja's territories. The Honorable Company have stations for levying customs.

3*rd.*—From the State of Bansda Rs. 7,800. This fixed amount, called the Chouth of Bansda, is levied under the same Treaty, and paid by the State direct into the treasury of the Principal Collector of Surat. Besides this are some duties also levied from the districts of this State by the Collector of Customs.

VIII.—No feudal service is performed by any of the States under this Agency.

IX.—We do not exercise any interference in the management of police or of revenue, nor do we interpose our authority in any dispute between the Rajas of these States and their own subjects.

X.—A Nuzurana was levied by the Peshwa from these States, and the British Government maintains also control in all successions; the exercise of this right is, however, limited to cases of adoption only, and the following rates are in existence:—

Mandvee State	Rs.	60,000
Dhurumpoor		45,000
Bansda		30,000

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. L. Elliot,
Agent for the Honorable the Governor.

Surat, Office of Agent for the Honorable the Governor, 11*th April* 1839.

(True copy)

(Signed) H. E. Goldsmid,
Superintendent Revenue Survey.

APPENDIX D.

(VIDE PARAGRAPH 68* OF MR. GOLDSMID'S REPORT.)

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

To Captain HENRY POTTINGER, Collector, &c., Ahmednuggur.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 7th of May last, I have the honour to enclose a schedule of the villages of the Penth Purguna which I propose should be made over to Nilkunt Rao, amounting, according to the revenue of last year (Fuslee 1232), to Rs. 1,509-0-62½. This amount includes every species of receipt except the Oobha Marg, or transit duties, at the Naka of Kohvundee; with this exception the Raja will have no right of interference whatever in these villages.

2. As the transit duties are assigned to Purshotum Punt, I am not aware that any disputes can arise from his holding the Naka in Kohvundee, and I was induced to include this village at the request of Nilkunt Rao, that he might have a station, for his Thana, better than the paltry Kolee villages which compose the remainder of those mentioned in the schedule. The Thulbureet or export duties on wood, sale of cattle, and *Ghatbunsee*, or trifling tax on bullocks, brought from above the Ghats for the purpose of cultivation, all of which are levied in the villages, I have included in his assignment, that all motive of interference may, to as great an extent as possible, be removed.

3. The Raja's dominions consist of the six Turufs of Penth, Hursool, Barey, Mallegaon, Mankher, and Palsee. Joglekur holds the whole of Barey and the customs of Hursool, and Purshotum Punt the land revenue of Hursool and the customs of Penth, as assignments for the payment of the sums owing to them by the Raja. There only remain for his direct management the Turufs Mallegaon, Mankher, and Palsee, and the land revenue of Penth, consisting of ninety-three villages, including those alienated to Inamdars and others. Of these, the twenty-four mentioned in the schedule will be made over to Nilkunt Rao, with the Thulbureet in them, including the duties on wood and cattle, as above mentioned; so that it will be necessary to make over to Purshotum Punt villages to the amount of this Thulbureet, which, according to that realized last year, may be stated at Rs. 245-2-12½, to be held by him, on the same terms as those on which the customs were assigned to him.

4. The assignment to Nilkunt Rao can have effect from the commencement of the present Fuslee 1233. The revenues of 1232 having been entirely collected by the Raja, I have therefore, subject to your confirmation, delivered to him the abovementioned villages, that he may prepare for their cultivation, and the realization of his revenues, during the present season.

* Vide page 131 of this Selection.

5. The Raja finds great difficulty in providing the requisite security for the annual payment of the Rs. 2,000. Joglekur and Purshotum Punt, his principal creditors, are, I understand, willing to engage, either separately or conjointly, for this annual payment, if they can procure our Government to guarantee the contract which the Raja may make with them, and to compel him to abide by its terms.

6. Those upon which the Raja proposes to satisfy the creditor who may come forward on this occasion are as follow:—He is to advance, immediately, money sufficient to pay the new debts contracted by the Raja during the last year, through the instrumentality of one Balabhaee, who engaged in his service at Nuggur, and one Heyat Khan, amounting to Rs. 11,300; to pay annually the sum of Rs. 3,500 to our Government, as the amount of the Surdeshmookhee and Mokassa; the Rs. 2,000 to Nilkunt Rao; Rs. 1,000, the estimated charge of management; and to provide a sum for the Raja's expenditure; for which he is to retain the districts now assigned to him, together with the Turufs of Mallegaon, Mankher, and Palsee, and the villages of the Penth Purguna which remain, after the deduction of those assigned to Nilkunt Rao, and to be continued in the management of these Turufs until his account, principal and interest, be settled. The Raja will *have then* made over the whole of his territory to his creditors, and this may discourage others from supplying him with funds for his extravagance, which, if we may judge from his last year's expenditure, is not likely to be curbed as long as any source exists from which it can be supplied.

7. The credit of the Raja is entirely destroyed, principally through the conduct of his new Dewan Balabhaee, and Heyat Khan. He is merely a tool in the hands of these persons, who keep up for themselves a state and equipage, at his expense, which but ill befit his present circumstances, and tend to involve him deeper in his pecuniary difficulties. Without the above expedient, I fear he will be unable to procure any security whatever. I have not, however, thought proper to countenance the proposal, without receiving further instructions from you.

8. I have likewise to request your instructions as to the period from which the settlement with Nilkunt Rao is to have effect. He states himself to have received but very trifling annual sums since the principality was delivered to the management of the Raja, and wishes that the full amount of Rs. 3,500 per annum should be made up to him from that period. The funds and credit of the Raja are, however, totally inadequate to defray so large a sum, and if you will inform me of any and what sum you think reasonable, I will notify it to both the parties.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) L. R. Reid,
First Assistant Collector.

Nasik, July 31*st*, 1823.

Statement of Villages of the Penth Purguna proposed to be delivered to NILKUNT RAO.

Names of Villages.	Kumal.			Total Receipts in Fuslee 1232.		
	Rs.	qr.	rs.	Rs.	qr.	rs.
Moujé Adh Boozroog	245	0	0	107	3	62½
Mujré Adh Khoord	300	0	0	106	2	12½
Ditto Dolur Mal	140	0	0	75	2	62½
Moujé Kolwundee	775	0	0	339	2	12½
Mujré Susane	66	0	0	33	3	87½
Moujé Mankapoor	63	0	0	20	3	0
Ditto Amblane	300	0	0	175	2	12½
Mujré Abhettee	75	0	0	57	2	0
Moujé Chulmook	175	0	0	31	2	50
Mujré Palsee	100	0	0	26	1	50
Moujé Neergoond	250	0	0	41	0	43¾
Ditto Bhoowun	67	2	0	52	0	43¾
Mujré Oombarpara	265	0	0	46	1	93¾
Moujé Koopoorlee Boozroog	550	0	0	81	0	0
Ditto Hurungaon	400	0	0	34	0	43¾
Ditto Khambset	32	0	0	11	2	50
Ditto Tondwull	55	0	0	23	1	0
Ditto Khombhale	250	0	0	52	1	0
Ditto Soorungane	300	0	0	89	0	87½
Mujré Kakaroolpara	....			10	3	0
Moujé Pimpulwada	105	2	0	38	3	0
Ditto Gawud	54	0	0	23	3	0
Mujré Sambar Padha	39	0	0	14	3	50
Ditto Khurkee	39	0	0	14	2	0
Total.... Rs.	4,646	2	0	1,509	0	62½

(Signed) L. R. REID,
First Assistant Collector.

(True copy)
(Signed) H. E. GOLDSMID,
Superintendent Revenue Survey.

APPENDIX E.

(VIDE PARAGRAPH 71* OF MR. GOLDSMID'S REPORT.)

No. 229 OF 1836.

To H. A. HARRISON, Esq., Ahmednuggur.

SIR,—I have the honour to enclose a Yadee, presented to me yesterday by Nilkunt Rao Dulwee, Raja of Penth, in which he brings forward a variety

Vide page 132 of this Selection.

of charges against Luxdeer Dulput Rao Raja, his relation, to the following effect.

2. Luxdeer Raja received in Fuslee 1245 from his villages about Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 3,000, at the rate of Rs. 5 per Outh or plough, under the name of Huks, which were not due, as he had already paid all those which were charged to him.

3. Luxdeer Raja commits all sorts of oppression upon his Ryuts, letting away their bullocks and ploughs, on which account the Ryuts, becoming disheartened, are deserting.

4. He charges Luxdeer Raja with fining the people of his villages.

5. As a remedy for this state of things, Nilkunt Rao requests that measures may be taken to prevent Luxdeer Raja from interfering in any manner with his territory; and that the villages of Luxdeer lately made over to him, by me, under order dated September 22nd, 1834, to the amount of Rs. 3,000, may be confirmed to him in the same manner in which Mr. Reid formerly attached villages to the amount of Rs. 1,500 for him.

6. The memorandum drawn up by Mr. Reid I have only just seen. It differs from mine in this respect, that it specifies the different items of the Sewaee Jumma, and it also contains the item of Jakaud, which mine does not. These omissions Luxdeer Raja has, it seems, taken advantage of, to lay claims to different Babtees, as well as to the customs of Nilkunt Rao's villages, and to institute, by means of his agents, a system of depredation which bids fair to render them entirely deserted.

7. Nilkunt Rao has already addressed you on the subject of his grievances, and you referred him to me. I would, as the means of relieving him from the unwarrantable annoyances detailed, accede to his request of taking measures to prevent Luxdeer's interference with his villages, and instruct Luxdeer, that until the sum in which he is indebted to Nilkunt Rao is liquidated, he will not be allowed to levy any taxes whatever, either as customs or Babtees, in the villages which have been made over to Nilkunt Rao.

8. I have the honour to forward a copy of Mr Reid's memorandum, above alluded to, and also my own in original, which letter I beg the favour of your returning to my office.

I have, &c.

First Assistant Collector's Office, Nasik, November 5th, 1836.

(Signed) H. Reeves,
Assistant Collector.

From T. H. Maddock, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India,

To J. P. Willoughby, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Dated 2nd March 1840.

Sir,—I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor General of India in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch dated the

29th January last, submitting copies of several papers connected with the death of the Raja of Penth, and the measures adopted by the Government of Bombay, in consequence of the deceased having left no male issue.

2. In reply, I am desired to observe, that although His Lordship in Council does not feel competent to decide upon this important question, yet he conceives it to be contrary to law and to usage that the daughter of a Mahomedan Chief should succeed to a Government such as that of Penth, or that the distant relatives can put forth their claim of succession as of right. Under these circumstances, His Lordship in Council is of opinion that the State may be considered as an escheat to the British Government; but it being one which it would be inconvenient and unprofitable to hold, the Government considers itself to be bound, as general guardians of the Native States, even at some hazard of expense, to restore order to this principality.

3. I am further desired to request that the Honorable the Governor in Council of Bombay will take measures to transfer the principality, either to such husband as the lady may take, or to trustees empowered to administer it on her account; or, in other words, to give her the principality in any way which shall not admit the principle of Mahomedan female inheritance.

I have, &c.

(Signed) T. H. MADDOCK,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Fort William, the 2nd March 1840.

No. 620 OF 1840.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From L. R. REID, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To the COLLECTOR OF AHMEDNUGGUR.

Dated 30th March 1840.

SIR,—I am directed by the Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 26th October 1839, forwarding an original report from Mr. Goldsmid, Superintendent of the Revenue Survey in the Nasik District, dated the 21st of the preceding month, submitting the result of the inquiry instituted by that officer into the right of succession to the Penth Estate.

2. In reply, I am desired to transmit to you copy of a letter from T. H. Maddock, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, dated the 2nd instant, and to request that you will be pleased to submit your opinion as to the best mode of giving effect to the instructions therein contained.

3. In submitting your report on this subject, you are requested to state the amount of Nuzurana which, in your opinion, should be levied on a final settlement being concluded in regard to this estate. The Governor in Council considers that the fine levied in the present case must be merely nominal,

but that the right on the part of the British Government to impose a fine should not be abandoned.

4. I am, on this occasion, desired to request that you will be pleased to communicate to Mr. Goldsmid the satisfaction of Government for the very able manner in which that officer has conducted his inquiries into this complicated case, and for the clear report which has been drawn up by him on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. R. REID,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 30th March 1840.

No. 1730 OF 1840.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From L. R. REID, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To H. A. HARRISON, Esq., Collector of Ahmednuggur.

Dated 3rd August 1840.

SIR,—* * * * * * *

I am desired to acquaint you, that on the marriage of the Begum of Penth this principality should be made over to her husband in the same state of possession and authority in which it has heretofore been held.

The Begum should, in the mean time, be viewed in the light of a ward of the British Government, and the administration of the affairs of the State should be conducted by the British authorities in a manner most advantageous to the interests of the Lady, the expenses of such management being disbursed from the revenues.

Although the British Government has no concern with the debts of the State of Penth, still the Governor in Council conceives that it would be satisfactory to find the just claims of its creditors put in a train of liquidation.

The best mode in which this can be effected will be by proportionate payment of the revenues now in deposit, and by setting aside a part of the resources for a period, leaving sufficient for the current expenses of management, and for the personal maintenance of the Begum and her immediate attendants.

In the first instance, however, the Governor in Council is desirous that these claims should be inquired into and defined, and therefore requests that you will do this as early as possible, and report the result to Government. The Governor in Council is also desirous that Mr. Goldsmid's opinion on each of these claims should be obtained, and forwarded with your report.

With reference to the question of Nuzurana, I am desired to state that it is at present the opinion of Government that the net revenue of one year

should be taken, but that the amount should be remitted for the sum of Rs. 100, on a settlement being effected with regard to the preservation of the teak timber in the forests of Penth, and their being considered as the property of the British Government.

8. Before, however, passing a final decision on the question of Nuzurana, the Governor in Council is desirous of being furnished with information as to the value and extent of the teak forests, and also whether they belong to the State or to private individuals; and therefore requests that you will have the goodness to submit a full report on these points. To assist you in preparing this, an extract from Dr. Gibson's report on the northern teak forests, in which those of Penth are mentioned, is enclosed.

9. The Governor in Council requests that you will bear in mind, that after Penth has been made over to the person whom the Begum may marry, the British Government has no intention whatever of exercising any minute interference in the internal management of the country, but will confine itself to providing full security for general peace and tranquillity, in virtue of its right as the paramount authority.

10. In conclusion, I am desired to observe that the Honorable the Governor in Council has lately been given to understand that the Begum has become nearly deprived of sight, in consequence of the effects of small-pox, and to request that you will, in your reply to this communication, report upon the present state of health of this lady, and whether you consider that she is incapacitated, from the above or any other cause, from being a free agent in making a proper selection of a husband.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. R. Reid,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 3rd August 1840.

No. 764 of 1846.

Political Department.

From H. A. Harrison, Esq., Collector of Ahmednuggur,
To L. R. Reid, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay.

Dated Ahmednuggur, 26th August 1840.

Sir,—With reference to the 10th paragraph of your letter of the 3rd instant, calling upon me for a report on the present state of health of the Begum of Penth, I do myself the honour to transmit, for the information of Government, extract of a letter from the Sub-Collector of Nasik, dated the 13th instant, together with some subsequent correspondence which has passed on the same subject.

2. From what is stated by Mr. Reeves, and from information which has reached me through other sources, I am disposed to believe myself that the Begum is quite incapacitated from being a free agent in making a proper selection of a husband.

I have, &c.
(Signed) H. A. HARRISON,
Collector.

Extract of a Letter from the Sub-Collector of Nasik to the Collector of Ahmednuggur, dated 13th August 1840.

3. With respect to the latter part of your letter, I have the honour to state that the Begum is so blind of her right eye, from the effects of small-pox, that she can scarcely distinguish a chair sufficiently to enable her to take her seat on it. With the other eye, she is so far blind that Dr. Watkins gives no hope of its recovery.

4. The poor lady seems to have suffered otherwise dreadfully from disease, which has thus afflicted her, and her state of health alone is such that it is quite impossible that she can be a free agent.

5. But were she in possession of the very best health, I am of opinion that she is so beset with unprincipled intriguers and interested rogues, into whose hands her youth and inexperience, as well as her father's embarrassment, have thrown her, that she could not avoid conforming implicitly to their dictation.

6. I do not hesitate, therefore, to inform you, that I believe the Begum is not a free agent, and that, without Government interfere, she will marry some person whose only recommendation will be an entire submission to her advisers, and a willingness to sacrifice the revenues and interests of the Penth territory to their unbridled avarice and profligacy.

7. Such a person I am quite convinced, from my own observation, and the information I have received from various quarters, is the son of the Nuwab of Sucheen, Siddoo Meeah, who is at Nasik, a favoured candidate for the hand of the Begum; and as I presume that Government do not mean that their ward and their own estate should be thrown away upon a person of this description, I have taken the precaution of informing the lady's Karbaree that they are not to take any steps towards marrying her without permission from me.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From H. W. REEVES, Esq., Sub-Collector, Nasik,
To H. A. HARRISON, Esq., Collector, Ahmednuggur.

Dated 21st August 1840.

SIR,—In reply to your letter dated 17th instant, I have the honour to

enclose a copy of a communication from Mr. Watkins, Civil Surgeon of Nasik, forwarding the certificate and information you have called for.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. W. REEVES,

Sub-Collector's Office, Nasik, August 21st, 1840. Sub-Collector.

From F. W. WATKINS, Esq., Civil Surgeon, Nasik,

To H. W. REEVES, Esq., Sub-Collector, Nasik.

Dated Nasik, 21st August 1840.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated this day, accompanying the copy of one from the Collector of Ahmednuggur, regarding the state of health in which the Begum of Penth now is, and particularly as to the state of her sight.

I have the honour to forward the accompanying certificate upon those points, and have the honour, &c.

(Signed) F. W. WATKINS,
Civil Surgeon, Nasik.

Nasik, August 21st, 1840.

I hereby certify that I have, at the request of H. W. Reeves, Esq., Sub-Collector of Nasik, attended upon the Begum of Penth for some weeks past, and have seen her this day.

Her general health appears to me to be particularly good; but, consequent on a severe attack of small-pox, which occurred a short time previously to my first seeing her, the sight of both eyes has been most seriously injured, to an extent which renders all future hope of perfect vision out of the question.

At the present time she is able to see in a *very* imperfect manner, and, owing to the nature of the injury, only objects in certain positions, and in a full light; nor is it my opinion that the power of vision in the left eye will ever be much improved, while the disease of the right eye has so far ceased, and slight improvement has taken place, as to give some hopes, though to no very great extent, and in a very gradual manner; but it would be out of the question to state precisely the period when the eyes may attain to the most useful state of vision of which they may be capable.

(Signed) F. W. WATKINS,
Civil Surgeon, Nasik.

No. 2109 OF 1840.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From L. R. REID, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To H. A. HARRISON, Esq., Collector of Ahmednuggur.

Dated 23rd September 1840.

SIR,—In acknowledging the receipt of your letter, with enclosures, dated the 26th August last, No. 764, I am directed to inform you, that as the Begum of Penth is represented to be nearly deprived of sight, from the effects of small-pox, and thereby rendered incapable of being a free agent in making a proper selection of a husband, the Honorable the Governor in Council is of opinion that she should not be allowed to enter into any matrimonial engagement without the previous consent of the British Government.

2. It has, moreover, been resolved by the Governor in Council, that the sanction of the British Government to a marriage contract on the part of the Begum will only be given to a person of unexceptionable character, and in other respects a suitable match.

3. I am therefore desired to request that you will be pleased to instruct the Sub-Collector of Nasik to inform the parties concerned to the above effect.

4. The Honorable the Governor in Council is further pleased to direct, that the decision conveyed in the 3rd paragraph of my letter to your address, dated the 3rd ultimo, No. 1730, be in the meanwhile considered as final; namely, that the Begum should be viewed in the light of a ward of the British Government, and that the administration of the affairs of Penth should be conducted by the British authorities, in a manner most advantageous to the interests of that lady; the expenses of such management being disbursed from the revenues of the State.

I have, &c.

(Signed) L. R. REID,

Bombay Castle, 23rd September 1840. Chief Secy. to Government.

Extract Paragraphs 61 *and* 62 *from a Despatch from the Honorable the Court of Directors, dated the* 16*th June, No.* 15 *of* 1841.

Answer to Political Letter dated 26th September, No. 45, 1840.

Further Proceedings relating to the Succession to the Estate of Penth.

61. Mr. Goldsmid's report, which is highly creditable to his industry and capacity, clearly establishes that the collateral claimants to the estate of Penth have no right; and females being incapable of succeeding to a Mahomedan principality, the estate becomes, strictly speaking, an escheat to Government. Instead, however, of asserting the right of Government, you have (in our opinion judiciously) determined to grant it to the person with whom the daughter

of the late Chief may hereafter ally herself in marriage, reserving only the teak forests as the property of the British Government. The estate is in the meanwhile to continue under the management of our officers in behalf of the Begum, as a ward of your Government; and as she is not to contract marriage without the consent of Government, the person selected will be one whom you may consider competent to be entrusted with the administration.

62. In addition to these very proper arrangements, you have directed an inquiry into the encumbrances of the estate, with a view to liquidate as great a portion of them as possible while the revenues are under your control. This is highly expedient; but we are inclined to think that your interference in favour of the creditors should not be continued after the country is given up.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From E. H. TOWNSEND, Esq., Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To F. CURRIE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India, Fort William.

Dated 18*th July* 1844.

SIR,—* * * * * * *

The Honorable the Governor has lately had an interview with the Begum of Penth, and is satisfied that she is imbecile in mind; added to which, she has entirely lost the sight of one eye, and also very nearly that of the other.

Under all these circumstances, the Governor in Council is of opinion that it would be extremely unjust to the Ryuts of Penth to place them under the government of the Begum; and he is therefore induced to recommend, for the consideration of the Government of India, that this estate be resumed by the British Government, and that, in lieu thereof, a liberal pension be assigned for her support.

From a report from the Sub-Collector, Nasik, dated the 15th February last, it appears that the financial affairs of this estate have considerably improved under European management, and that on the 5th June 1843, after payment of all expenses, a surplus balance of Rs. 46,583-3-9 remained in deposit in the treasury of the Sub-Collector in favour of this estate, this saving having been effected since the death of the late Raja in 1839. During the lifetime of the late Raja, the average gross revenues of this estate amounted to the sum of Rs. 12,000 per annum, which, under the management of the Sub-Collector, has been annually increasing, and during the last year amounted to the sum of Rs. 21,527-7-3, out of which amount the sum of Rs. 9,286-1-3 was defrayed for expenses of management.

The Begum of Penth is at present allowed a sum of Rs. 200 per mensem, from the revenues of this estate, for her support.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) E. H. TOWNSEND,
Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 18*th July* 1844.

FOREIGN DEPARTMENT.

From F. CURRIE, Esq., Secretary to the Government of India,
To E. H. TOWNSEND, Esq., Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Fort William, the 10th August 1844.

SIR,—In reply to your despatch of the 18th ultimo, No. 103, respecting the petty Chiefship of Penth, I am directed by the Governor General in Council to observe as follows.

2. The question of an escheat of this estate to the British Government, and of their grant of it to this lady, seems settled by the orders of Government, contained in Mr. Secretary Maddock's letter of 2nd March 1840, since which the estate has been under the management of the Collector of Nasik, which management must be considered as that of a trustee, for an incompetent female proprietor.

3. It does not appear that the administration of this estate has proved either "inconvenient" or "unprofitable," as was anticipated. The revenues have, as stated in your present despatch, increased under our management from Rs. 12,000 to Rs. 21,500 annually.

4. There appears to the Governor General in Council no cause for disturbing the existing state of things. The Begum has not married a suitable husband, and she is not considered a competent person to manage her own affairs. All the expenses of management are, it is concluded, defrayed by the estate, and there is a surplus revenue to provide for the Begum's maintenance. If she marries respectably, well and good,—the property may then, according to the original intention, be made over to her husband; if she does not marry, when she dies the estate will revert to the British Government.

5. The Governor General in Council is therefore of opinion that the best course, under all the circumstances of the case, is to leave things as they are.

I have the honour to be, &c.
(Signed) F. CURRIE,
Secy. to the Govt. of India.

Fort William, the 10th August 1844.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to Government, Bombay,
To C. E. F. TYTLER, Esq., Acting Sub-Collector of Nasik.

Dated 22nd March 1849.

SIR,—I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to transmit to you copy of a petition from the Begum of Penth, dated the 23rd January last, requesting that Government will select a husband for her, and place her in possession of the Suwusthan.

2. In forwarding this petition, I am desired to state that, under instructions from the Government of India, His Lordship in Council has resolved to modify the former orders of Government. The estate of Penth will be continued under the charge of the officers of Government, and will not, under any circumstances, be made over to the Begum, who, during her life, will receive a pension equal to two-thirds of the net revenue of the estate, the remaining one-third being expended on improvements, which the country so much needs.

3. You will be pleased to adopt measures to give effect to this resolution, and to inform the Begum of Penth of the decision which Government has come to on her petition.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) A. MALET,
Chief Secretary.

Bombay Castle, 22nd March 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From E. M. SUART, Esq., Sub-Collector of Nasik,

To A. MALET, Esq., Chief Secretary to the Government of Bombay.

Dated 31st March 1849.

SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 22nd March 1849, No. 1214, I have the honour to observe, I believe I am right in supposing it is the intention of Government the Begum should have, for the future, a pension equal to two-thirds of the net revenue of the Penth State, whether or not she enters into a matrimonial engagement with Siddoo Meeah, the Nuwab of Sucheen.

2. The net revenues of the State amounted last year to Rs. 11,874. As it is not likely ever to fall below that sum, I beg respectfully to suggest I be authorised to pay the Begum Rs. 500 monthly, and, at the end of each year, whatever balance may remain due to her after the actual revenue has been ascertained.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) E. M. SUART,
Sub-Collector.

Circuit Kucheree, Camp Pimpulgaum Buswunt, 31st March 1849.

POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.

From W. COURTNEY, Esq., Acting Secretary to Government, Bombay,

To E. M. SUART, Esq., Sub-Collector of Nasik.

Dated 20th April 1849.

SIR,—I am directed by the Right Honorable the Governor in Council to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 196, dated the 31st ultimo, and in reply to inform you, that the pension assigned to the Begum of Penth is irrespective of any matrimonial alliance she may enter into.

2. His Lordship in Council approves of your suggestion in the second paragraph, regarding the mode of paying this pension.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. COURTNEY,
Acting Secretary to Government.

Bombay Castle, 20th April 1849.

NARRATIVE OF BRITISH RELATIONS

WITH THE

PETTY NATIVE ESTATES WITHIN THE LIMITS OF THE KHANDESH COLLECTORATE.

BY

MR. S. MANSFIELD,

COLLECTOR AND MAGISTRATE IN THAT ZILLA.

Submitted to Government on the 21*st June* 1854.

KHANDESH.

THE Collector and Magistrate of Khandesh exercises political superintendence and control over the Bheel Rajas of the Dangs, the Petty State of Soorgana, and the Mehwasee (Bheel) Chiefs. The estates of the latter, situated in the Nundoorbar and Sooltanpoor Talookas, are exempted from the operation of the Regulations by Act XI. of 1846.

The Dang country contains a superficial area of about one thousand square miles; is bounded on the north by the Khandesh district of Nowapoor, and by His Highness the Gaekwar's district of Soangur; on the south by the Petty State of Soorgana; on the east by the Sahyadree range of mountains; and on the west partly by the British district of Chiklee, and His Highness the Gaekwar's district of Untapoor. It is divided into five principal and two smaller Dangs, in all seven forest tracts, viz: 1, Dang Garvee; 2, Dang Wassoorna; 3, Dang Amallee; 4, Dang Dherbowtee; 5, Dang Pimpree; 6, Dang Owchar; and 7, Dang Chinchlee. Each Dang has its own Bheel Chief or Raja, though the Garvee Chief is looked upon by the others as the principal Raja. They are quite independent of each other, except in warfare, when all are bound to join the Garvee standard with their quota of armed men. There are no histories of the reigning families. The respective ages of the several Rajas are as follow:—

Dang Garvee.

Ages.

Kerul Sing wulud Oodesing Raja; has no heir 18

Dang Wassoorna.

Bapoo wulud Anund Raja; has a son and heir, named Luximon, aged twenty years 40

Dang Amallee.

Hassoor Sing wulud Purtab Sing Raja; has a son and heir, named Ruttun, aged fifteen years 35

Dang Dherbowtee.

Ankoos wulud Bhudra Raja; has a son and heir, named Nawloo, aged eight years 35

Dang Pimpree.

Trimbuk wulud Dulput Naik; has a son and heir, named Baba, aged five years 25

Dang Owchar.

Ages.

Krishna wulud Lahanoo Naik; has a son and heir, named Durma, aged twenty years 55

Dang Chinchlee.

Oolshya wulud Khundoo Naik; has a son and heir, named Bewria, aged six years 30

The heirs of these Chiefs or Rajas are with their parents; they are being brought up in ignorance and barbarism: every inducement has been held out by Major Morris to encourage the parents to send their sons to school for education, but in vain.

The Dang country being a forest tract, the soil and climate only admit of one kind of grain being grown in it, called Naglee, which is the principal food of the inhabitants; all other grains and supplies are procured from the bazars of our villages above the Ghats. The Mowa tree grows luxuriantly all over the Dang: Parsees from Surat buy the fruit from the Bheels, and there are many Parsee distilleries on the western frontier of this tract, where it is distilled into the spirit called Mowra, and taken off to Surat and the coast for sale. The Bheels generally barter bamboos and timber in exchange for the necessaries of life; there is little or no circulation of money.

The first notice of this country may be taken from the beginning of the British rule in Khandesh, during the year 1818. Before this the Bheel Rajas of the Dang appear, from their ferocity and the strength of their fastnesses, to have preserved their independence during the rule of the Native Governments; but every change in those Governments and every internal commotion proved a signal for the Bheels to quit their strongholds, and sally forth for plunder. On the other hand, it was deemed perfectly lawful by the Native Governments to use every stratagem and subterfuge to entice these people into their power, and to put them to death, although they had previously guaranteed them from all such dangers under the most solemn promises. The Dang Bheels, similar to those of Khandesh, were considered by the Native Government as outcasts from society, and any mode was considered justifiable to exterminate them. This state of things naturally caused the Dang Bheels to distrust the Native Government, and for some years retarded our relations with them.

There is no record forthcoming, regarding the Dang, which throws any light on the origin of their independence. Our Government appear to have been sufficiently aware of the propensities of these Bheels for plundering, and secured our frontier from their attacks by placing strong detachments of the line at Molair, Dhywell, Pimpulneir, and Warsa. These arrangements preserved our own frontier, but the Bheels continued to make predatory incursions into the territory of His Highness the Gaekwar, which led in 1825 to our guaranteeing to them their Geeras claims on that country, the irregular payment of which was stated to be the real cause of their depredations.

These Bheels had also Geeras claims on several of our villages, which were

recognised in 1828, and their payment settled from the district treasuries of Baglan and Pimpulneir. By this measure they were kept quiet for a time; but occasionally they broke out, and attacked our villages. These incursions were vigorously checked, and now the predatory spirit of the Bheels appears to be almost entirely subdued.

In 1842-43 the British Government entered into an arrangement with the Rajas of the Dang for the lease of their teak forests, on the payment of an annual sum of Rs. 11,234. This arrangement is for the period of sixteen years, and can be continued at the option of Government, or dispensed with by warning the Rajas to that effect six months beforehand.

There is no peculiarity or local custom with respect to the order of succession to the different Gadees. In former times, it was scarcely ever settled without bloodshed, but since the commencement of our relations with the country this system has been put down.

The boundaries of each Dang have never been defined. I am unable, therefore, to submit a sketch-map of them; I also regret that the limited time allowed me to write this report will not enable me to make one. The deadly effect which the climate has on the European constitution deters any from resorting to it except on duty. The only months in which it may be visited with comparative safety are April and May; but from the intensity of the heat, and the scarcity of water, it is with difficulty that any European can remain in it for many days, even in the above months. The features of the country consist of a succession of hill and dale, covered with dense forests. The productions are the finest teak for ship-building, and other timber. The revenues of the State were derived from fees on timber, and on all produce passing through the country; the land revenue is very small, and received in kind from the population.

There are four rivers in the Dang,—the Kapree, Poorna, Ambeka, and Kooda. They are rapid mountain streams, running from east to west, and become dry in the hot months, except at spots where the rocky nature of their beds retains pools of water. Experiments have been made with the view to render the rivers Poorna and Kapree navigable for rafts, and available for floating timber down to the coast; but the numerous rapids and shallows are too formidable to hope for any success without an outlay considerably beyond the profit to be derived from such an undertaking.

There is not in the whole Dang a single permanent work executed by the hand of man: there is not a house with a tiled roof,—there is not a masonry well in the whole country. The Chiefs and the people dwell in huts made of bamboos and grass, on the banks of rivers and nullas, the sites of which they are constantly changing.

There are no made roads: the travelling is along the timber tracks, and, except near the western portion, it is a succession of hill and dale. A survey was made last year by Lieutenant Mungavin, of the Road and Tank Department, from Malligaum to Molair, down the Baboolna Ghat, *viâ* Garvee and Peepree, to Bulsar, for the purpose of making a fair-weather road to the coast.

The hills of the Dang are of primitive rock and basalt. Besides the finest teak for ship-building, the forests afford many trees adapted not only for building but for many other useful and ornamental purposes. The gums which are found in the forests are of several kinds. Several of the trees yield a white juice, which, extracted and exposed to the sun, leaves a substance that, if not equal to gutta percha, resembles it so nearly as to lead Major Morris to suppose its being of the same nature.

The Dang pays no tribute of any kind to the British Government, or to any of the neighbouring States. The Rajas appear to have held their country by force of arms, and were the dread of the neighbouring States before the British rule began. The population of the Dang is estimated at 7,251 souls.

The Gaekwar has shares in certain of the Dang villages in the forests of Dherbowtee and Garvee. The Gaekwar's flag is raised at the Garvee capital, and he has succeeded in increasing his influence gradually every year in the Dang. Since the Honorable Company's lease of the teak forests, it has been in a great measure stopped, but there is little doubt that the Gaekwar's object in having his flag flying at Garvee was eventually to annex, by means of presents and other means, this large tract of beautiful forest land to his own territories, so as to have the entire command of the valuable teak timber which now finds its way into the dockyard in Bombay.

The number of villages in the whole Dang country is stated to be four hundred and seventy-three, and of these, a certain portion of the revenue of fifty-three is alienated to His Highness the Gaekwar. The number of villages whose forests are leased to the Honorable Company are four hundred and forty-six, of which the forest rights of thirty-five are in part alienated to His Highness the Gaekwar.

There is no local corps in the Dang, nor any organised Native force, but every Bheel is called on to carry arms in cases of emergency. Nor is there any police in the country, each Bheel being his own policeman. No sum is contributed for the maintenance of the general peace of the country, as the regular payment of Geeras to the Bheels secures peace to the borders of contiguous States.

The Dang has much improved in its social relations since the Chiefs have been brought into closer communication with the British Government, and it may be reasonably expected that in a few years more we shall be able to open the eyes of the Rajas to the benefit of introducing education amongst their people, and to the necessity of throwing aside many of the barbarous prejudices which have hitherto retarded their civilization. Major Morris has taken the opportunity of trying to educate those of the Dang Bheels who have been sentenced to confinement by the Magistrate for criminal offences, and he has one Dang Raja, Nowloo wulud Kursal, of Dang Garvee, a Jemadar in the Bheel Corps, who has been also educated. This plainly shows that the Dang Bheels are as capable as any other race of receiving education.

The history of a wild tract of country, inhabited by so wild and barbarous a

race of men, must at any time furnish very limited materials for history; I have therefore confined myself to a simple relation of facts regarding the several points on which I am called to report, not touching, of course, on those which are not applicable to the Dang. The information which I have given is taken from the records in my own office.

SOORGANA.

The Petty State of Soorgana, I find, was first brought to the notice of our Government in 1818, the same period as Khandesh came into our possession. It is situated in the south-west corner of the province, and contains an area of about three hundred and sixty square miles, bounded on the north by the Dang country, on the south by the Penth country, on the west by the territories of the Rajas of Dhurumpoor and Bansda, and on the east by the Sahyadree range of mountains.

The general features of this small tract of country resemble those of the Dang, and consist of a succession of hilly, undulating grounds, which were in earlier periods covered with dense forests. These have now been to a great extent cleared away. There is only one river running through this country—a mountain stream, which takes its rise in the Sahyadree range, and flows from west to east. It always dries up in the hot months, and a great scarcity of water prevails in every village during three months in the year. Although this stream is only a mountain rapid in Soorgana, yet on its approach to the sea it becomes a river of some size, by the addition of tributary streams; but nowhere is it navigable.

In the forests of Soorgana are to be found the teak tree, the blackwood tree, the Tewus, Dahmun, Kheir, Dhumber, &c. The teak is not to be compared with that of the Dang country, which is of the firmest and finest description, while that of Soorgana is knotted and gnarled, and apparently of stunted growth. This may arise from the absence of that dense shade, which is so conducive to the growth of the young teak in the Dang.

The soil of Soorgana, though generally of little depth, is very fertile. It mostly consists of a loose, rich black loam, and the richest spots are found at the bottom of deep valleys. On these rice is cultivated, or Sawa, Tooree, Kodroo, Khoorsanee, Wuraee, Ooreed, and Burtee; but the principal food of the inhabitants of Soorgana is a grain called Naglee, which gives an early crop, and is raised entirely by manual labour on the sides of the undulating hills, the soil of which only is adapted to its growth.

There has been no artificial irrigation yet introduced, though the nature of the country affords every facility for its introduction.

The revenue was derived principally from custom house fees, which are collected at the different places in the Suwusthan, and are levied on merchandize, but the largest emoluments resulted from the tax on all timber passing the custom house stations; there is also a tax on travellers.

The family of the Deshmooks appears to have been of Kolee origin, and in

all probability originally resided somewhere in the fastnesses surrounding Hutgur; but little is known of its early history. During the Mahomedan reign it appears to have been brought to the notice of that Government, who entrusted its members with the responsible duty of restraining the predatory incursions of the Bheels and Kolees above the Ghats, and assist the Government on any occasion when their military services might be required.

The fort of Hutgur, which is only eight miles from Soorgana, was once of great importance, and one of its gateways was placed in permanent charge of the Deshmook, with a body of armed men. The unsettled state of the country, and the restless disposition of the wild inhabitants of the Dang, must have called forth all the energies of the garrison of Hutgur to keep them in check.

The ancestors of the present Deshmooks appear to have been much employed on service of this kind, and to have gained considerable notice for the good service they were enabled to render from time to time to the Mahomedan Government. They were consequently entrusted with the protection of the line of Ghats from Rowra to Serbone, as a reward for their services; and several villages below, in Soorgana, were granted them as a remuneration for service, and for the support of their body of Sebundees.

Some time after this arrangement had been concluded, the head of the family represented to the Native Government, that in consequence of his having no title or designation, nor any authority to deal with the inhabitants on his own responsibility, his influence in keeping peace in the Dang, and throughout the surrounding tracts, had been much weakened. This representation had the effect of procuring for the family the title of Deshmook, with permission to use a seal in matters connected with the Dang inhabitants, and with those on the other frontiers of Soorgana.

After the subversion of the Mahomedan rule by the Murathas, or probably some time before, the Deshmook of Soorgana asserted his independence, and refused to pay any revenue to the existing Government, and his country was included with that of the Dang in the "Bundee Mooluk" (country in rebellion); but greater efforts were made to conciliate the Deshmooks of Soorgana than were ever exerted towards the Rajas of the Dang.

One of the principal routes from the Deccan to Surat and to the coast lay through Soorgana, which it was of consequence to keep open; and therefore the Soorgana Deshmook was allowed to collect the revenue of the Government villages in Soorgana, and to pay it to the Government authorities at Hutgur at his option.

Soorgana is styled in the old records of the Peshwa as a Turuf of Hutgur, and the Jageer villages as Turuf Soorgana Prant Hutgur. The Deshmooks have thirty-one villages, with a population of about 1,539 souls. The revenue is raised on the number of ploughs, called Outbundee. The land revenue of the Deshmooks' villages amounts only to Rs. 1,401-4-0; the custom house taxes, &c. to Rs. 5,469-3-0; yielding a revenue of Rs. 6,870-7-0.

The Deshmooks are stated to be independent of the British Government, except in their relation to it as the paramount power. They are also the hereditary Koolkurnees over all the villages in the Soorgana Suwusthan.

Our political relations with Soorgana appear to have begun in 1818, when military operations were undertaken against Mulharjee Deshmook, for having attacked a party of our Sebundees stationed at Soorgana. The ostensible reason for this attack was a claim the Deshmook made on some villages in the Hutgur Purguna. Mulharjee was eventually seized, and hung for this transaction in 1819.

The British Government, after the disaffection of Mulharjee Deshmook, placed the principal authority in the family of Bhikajee Deshmook, who assisted to seize Mulharjee, and he was recognised as head of the Suwusthan.

The mother of Mulharjee Deshmook, who had quitted the Suwusthan, and then resided at the village of Wunnee, in the Nasik Sub-Collectorate, instigated Pillajee Deshmook, her brother-in-law, to raise an insurrection, and murder Bhikajee Deshmook, which was but too successfully carried out.

The British Government was then compelled to send out a military force to seize Pillajee Deshmook, who sought shelter for some time in the Raja of Penth's country, but was eventually apprehended, and executed in 1820, with five other persons, who were his accomplices.

After the above events, it appears that in 1820 Eswunt Deshmook, son of the murdered Bhikajee, a lad then of nine years of age, was recognised by our Government as the elder of the two branches of the family, and was appointed to carry on the affairs of the State through the agency of his Dewan. The two branches lived quite separately, and, owing to the disputes which have existed from generation to generation, a blood feud has been cherished between the families, which all the influence of the British authority has been insufficient to settle.

The annexed Genealogical Tree will show the several branches of this family. There exists at present a dispute as to which branch is the elder; but this is of no moment, since the British Government have ordered that of Eswunt Rao to be considered as such, and to hold the chief power, while Morar Rao, the younger, is to carry on the duties of the Suwusthan in concert with Ravee Rao, a cousin of the late Eswunt Rao, and share in the expenses and profits of the State.

From 1842 up to 1852, when Major Morris received charge of Soorgana, as Political Assistant, these two Deshmooks had been at enmity, and were continually being brought to the notice of the civil authorities in Khandesh for quarrelling with each other, and disobeying the orders of Government. In these disputes Morar Rao appears to have been much in the wrong, and has been once or twice visited with the displeasure of Government. He was for some time placed under surveillance, but in 1843, after furnishing security for his future good conduct, he was allowed to return to his country, which he then recklessly involved in debt by his extravagance.

GENEALOGICAL TREE.

The treaty entered into with Soorgana in 1829 remains unaltered to this day.

There is no particular or local custom existing with respect to the order of succession. The heir apparent will be found in the abovementioned Genealogical Tree, and is marked with an asterisk.

No map has ever been made of the Soorgana Suwusthan, and there is no time to prepare one to accompany this report.

The climate of Soorgana resembles that of the Dang, in its being proverbially unhealthy for Europeans, except during the months of April and May, and even then the water is so scarce, and of such bad quality, that Europeans cannot remain in the country longer than a few days at a time. Natives of the up-country feel the effects of the climate, and almost all who go there return with fever. I may add that before Major Morris had completed his tour of inspection last year, he became so ill as to be obliged to quit the country as soon as possible. This country has formed no engagements with any of the neighbouring petty States.

There is no local or contingent corps in it; the Deshmooks keep up twenty-five Sebundees and five horsemen to guard their treasury, and to aid in any military operations undertaken by the British Government in their neighbourhood. They are also the police, and are paid out of the revenues of the country. The proper complement is thirty-five Sebundees and five horsemen; but, owing to the present poverty of the State, the keeping up of this number has not been enforced.

The Mehwasee Chiefs whose estates are situated in the Talookas of Sooltanpoor and Nundoorbar, and are exempted by Act XI. of 1846 from the operation of the Regulations, are,—

1, The Wusawa of Chiklee.
2, The Rana of Boodawul.
3, The Gowhaleekur.
4, The Katikur.
5, The Singpoorkur.
6, Nal.
7, Rylia Parvee.

Chiklee.

The Wusawa of Chiklee is the principal Mehwasee Chief. From whence the family derived its origin there is no means of ascertaining,—there are no records belonging to the family. Captain Briggs, in his letter dated 24th September 1818, to the address of the Honorable Mr. Elphinstone, sole Commissioner in the Deccan, states that his ancestors held originally lands of the Rajas of the hilly and woody country of Rajpeepla, lying north of the Taptee and south of the Nerbudda, and (the then Wusawa) Jewa has, like other Bheel Chieftains in this part, taken advantage of the times to establish his power and right over the neighbouring fertile districts. His family lands consist of eighty-four villages in the Rajpeepla country. Taking advantage of the condition of the Government, he became the dread of the surrounding country. He levied tribute from several Zumindars, and made passengers and merchants pay toll for their transit through the country. Such was the *status*

of the Wusawa when we took possession of Khandesh; and Captain Briggs was induced to permit his son, and his principal man, an active Rajpoot, to enter our service and protect the country. Captain Briggs agreed to maintain eleven horse and forty foot for him, and to collect the tolls he had been accustomed to levy, and to pay them to him; and Government also assigned him an annual pension of Rs. 3,000. This arrangement continued till the year 1846, when his son, the Koowur Wusawa, broke out into rebellion against the British Government. This individual was apprehended, tried, and condemned to ten years' imprisonment. The estate was then attached, and administered by the Collector of Khandesh up to this year, a small allowance being made to the Koowur's son. The estate was released at the beginning of this year, and made over to the Koowur's son, Ramsing Wusawa, who was not considered qualified to superintend the police; and the allowance made to his grandfather for horse and foot was taken away, and he is now residing in his estate, enjoying its land revenue, and the Government pension granted to his ancestor.

The Chiklee Suwusthan is bounded on the north by the Suwusthans of Gowhalee and Sagbarra, on the south by the Taptee, on the east by the Kookurmoonda Purguna, and on the west by Sagbarra, and His Highness the Gaekwar's possessions. It has flowing through it the Parwadee, Kodlee, Deo, Supertee, Ganglee, and Wurkara rivers, which, rising in the Satpooras, empty themselves into the Taptee, and in most of them water remains throughout the year. Bheels are the only population; and, in consequence of the thick jungle with which it is covered, the climate is extremely unhealthy. The Natives feel it severely, and Europeans cannot exist in it during the greater portion of the year. The most prevalent diseases are small-pox and jungle fever. The only road running through it, on which there is traffic, is a portion of the road from Kookurmoonda to Sagbarra and Guzerat. The revenues for the official year 1852-53 amounted to as follows:—

Land revenue ..... Rs.	212	11	0
Kullalee	139	0	0
Diggur villages	6	0	0
Cattle-grazing	67	1	0
Mango trees	14	12	0
Sheep-grazing	1	7	0
Mahora trees	13	8	0
Koontee allowance	250	0	0
Total.... Rs.	704	7	0

Boodawul.

In 1818, when Captain Briggs effected arrangements with most of the Mehwasee Chiefs, he found the then representative of this family, named Chunder Sing, in possession of Boodawul, with the Bheel Chiefs Lutchmun, Panchya, and Rylia Parvee dependent on him, receiving Geeras from forty

villages in the Nundoorbar and Sooltanpoor Talookas, as also holding possession of the passes into Mutwar; and in pursuance of the beforementioned policy, this officer recognised the apparently independent position of this Chief, but required from him the relinquishment of a few questionable rights, such as payment for the possession of the passes, &c., and guaranteed to him a sum of money in lieu of his Geeras; and, in return, the Chief agreed to keep in check the Bheels in his vicinity. This family is supposed to have been very ancient, and by some to have existed prior to the Mahomedan reign. Much fruitless inquiry has, however, been made to ascertain its former political position; but as it possessed no records on our occupation of this province, it is impossible to trace any particulars connected with its previous history. Chunder Sing fulfilled his engagements, and died in 1819, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Bhugwan Sing, a man of no character. He died in 1839, and was succeeded by his brother Gunput Sing, the late Rana, a depraved and debauched individual, who early exhibited his total unfitness for the position he had attained. His deep involvement in debt, together with his oppressive treatment of his subjects, combined with the suspicion that he connived at the robberies occurring in the Sooltanpoor Talooka, required his removal to Dhoolia, and his estate to be attached, which occurred in 1845, when, a maintenance having been provided for him, the balance of his revenues was appropriated to the payment of his debts, which have not yet been entirely liquidated. Gunput Sing, having died childless, there is no heir to the estate, which has* lapsed to the British Government. Boodawul is situated in the Sooltanpoor Talooka, between the Taptee and the Satpooras, by which mountains it is bounded on the north; on the south and east by the Kookurmoonda Purguna; and on the west by the estates of Singpoor and Nal. It has no rivers running through it, nor has it any road along which traffic passes. The soil is of a good description, but is almost entirely covered with jungle. There are seventeen inhabited and fifteen uninhabited Bheel villages. The climate is unhealthy during the greater part of the year, when either jungle fever or small-pox prevails. The revenues for the official year 1852-53 were Rs. 2,727-11-0, and its disbursements Rs. 627-11-3, leaving a balance of Rs. 2,099-15-9.

GOWHALEE.

In 1818 this family held Gowhalee, and had in its pay numerous Sebundees; and Captain Briggs considered it advisable to grant its then representative, Nana Wulvee, Rs. 300 per annum as Koontee allowance, and to require from him police assistance within and around his estate. This family has no records, and it is therefore impossible to state its origin, or from whom it received its present possessions. It is described to be a feudatory of Rajpeepla, and is stated to have been almost ruined on the subversion of that State.

* Orders were issued by Government, on the 28th September 1855, for the resumption of this Estate.—*Editor.*

When we first became acquainted with it, Nana Wulvee, its then Chief, had collected around him several adventurers. He is supposed to have secretly aided Kooer Wusawa* of Sagbarra, in his frequent raids into Khandesh, until that Chief was brought to reason by Mr. Willoughby, then Assistant Resident at Baroda, and when it was arranged that the Sagbarra Chief and Nana Wulvee should receive shares of the Songhur Koontee.

In accordance with the above arrangement, Nana Wulvee received Babasye Rs. 1,000 from the Baroda Government. On his death, his son, Katia Wulvee, being a minor, his uncle, Dewjee Wulvee, became his guardian. The young Chief is now† about fourteen years of age, and attends the Kookurmoonda school. He is able to read and write Murathee, is acquainted with geography, and is a very sharp and intelligent boy.

Gowhalee is bounded on the north by the Kati and Rajpeepla territories, on the south by Chiklee, on the east by the Kookurmoonda Purguna, and on the west by Sagbarra. Its population is confined to Bheels. It is extremely mountainous, and covered with dense forests. The only road through it is that pursued by the Brinjarees, *en route* to Guzerat. The Chief receives his revenue in grain, but I have no means of ascertaining the quantity of grain collected. Independent of this, it receives an annual payment of Babasye Rs. 1,000 from Baroda, and Rs. 300 from the English Government.

KATI.

In 1818 this Mehwasee was recognised as a dependent of the Rana of Boodawul, and as his estate was situated within the Satpooras, and of considerable extent, its Chief was granted by Captain Briggs a Koontee allowance of Rs. 37-8-0.

This family has no records, neither is its present representative, Oomed wulud Luximon Parvee, acquainted with its origin. It pays a yearly Nuzurana of Rs. 32 to Boodawul, with whose Chief it for some time waged war, and the necessity of their keeping up numerous Mukranees doubtless created the involvements under which it now labours. After our acquisition of Khandesh, a detachment was placed at Kookurmoonda, to keep in subjection the disaffected Bheels of that neighbourhood; and Captain Rigby, its Commandant, found it necessary to proceed to Kati, to inflict punishment on Luximon Parvee, its Chief, and to prevent him from collecting his followers for plunder, and thereby disturbing the public peace. On that officer's arrival at Kati he found the village vacated, and caused it to be burnt. On this occasion the whole of the family property was destroyed, and, with it, whatever records they possessed. The present Chief, Oomed Parvee, is a man of about forty years of age,† devoid of energy, and much involved in debt. His eldest son, Rootoo Parvee, is heir apparent, and was

* Vide page 703 *et seq.* of Bombay Selection No. XXIII. 1856.

† A. D. 1854.

formerly a scholar of the Bheel school at Kookurmoonda. The Suwusthan of Kati is bounded on the north by the Oodeypoor State, on the south by the Suwusthans of Singpoor and Chiklee, on the east by the Akranee Purguna, and on the west by the State of Rajpeepla and the Suwusthan of Gowhalee. It is very difficult of access from every direction, and consists of a succession of narrow valleys, separated by ridges of lofty, irregular hills, covered with thick jungle. Its population is confined to Bheels. During the greater part of the year jungle fever more or less prevails. It has no road on which there is traffic, running through it; and the only river is the Deo, which, rising in the Satpooras, empties itself into the Nerbudda.

This Chief has no accounts, but the average revenue of his estate was ascertained in 1850 by Lieutenant Rigby, from a Soukar at Nandod, to whom it had been for several years mortgaged, to be between six and seven thousand rupees per annum. He also receives Rs. 450 Koontee allowance. Independent of his establishment of about ten peons, he has no expenditure, but the interest on his debts to Soukars at Nandod and Kookurmoonda swallows up nearly his whole revenue. The country is so unhealthy that few, save its inhabitants, can visit it at any other season of the year than the hot weather, from the middle of April to the end of May. Jungle fever prevails nearly throughout the year.

This Chief has no Sebundees, and but ten peons, whom he employs in the collection of his revenue. There is no police establishment.

Singpoor.

In 1818 this Chieftain was acknowledged by Captain Briggs as a dependent of the Rana of Boodawul, and as the possessor of Singpoor and its three villages, and had granted to him an annual present through the Rana of Boodawul of Rs. 200. This Chief has no records, and is unacquainted with the previous history of his family. Bhikna Parvee is about sixty years of age; his son, Goomla Parvee, is about twenty years old, and for several years was a scholar in the Bheel school at Kookurmoonda, which he left on attaining his majority. The Singpoor Suwusthan is bounded on the north by the Satpooras, on the south by the Kookurmoonda Purguna, on the east by Nal, and on the west by Boodawul; it contains but three inhabited Bheel villages, and is covered with jungle. Its revenue is about Rs. 135, which, with the personal allowance this Chief now receives of Rs. 100, is all that he has to live upon.

Nal.

In 1818 this petty Mehwasee was recognised by Captain Briggs as a dependent on Boodawal, and, when that officer effected his arrangement with its Rana, he agreed to recognise his right to Nal, with its then five villages; he also guaranteed the Koontee to which he was entitled, but of which the Political Agent made the collection, and granted him an annual present of Rs. 200,

which has been reduced to Rs. 100 in accordance with Government letter No. 4592 of 1849. This family appear to have been feudatories of Boodawul, and are also accustomed to pay that Suwusthan a yearly Nuzurana of some trifling amount of money. The present representative of this family is Kania Parvee, who is about thirty years of age. His son is named Phulgee Parvee, and is about five years of age.

Nal is bounded on the north and south by the Kookurmoonda Purguna, on the east and west by the States of Gowhalee and Boodawul, and contains two inhabited and five uninhabited villages.

Independent of the allowance of Rs. 100 granted by Government, he has but little revenue, which he sometimes receives in kind, sometimes in money, and which may be estimated at about Rs. 20 or Rs. 25. This Chief keeps no accounts of his disbursements, and has no police establishment.

Rylia wulud Weslia Parvee.

I have no means of stating when this Chief's family became possessed of their estate, which they received from the Rana of Boodawul. Its present representative, Kooera Parvee, is about thirty years of age. For the last two years he has acted as Jemadar of the Nundoorbar Mehwasee police, and is an intelligent man. On the death of Rylia Parvee, this estate was attached, agreeably to circular No. 19, dated 14th April 1832, but was given to Kooera and Ditia Parvee on the 5th April 1853, by order communicated by Captain Rose, officiating Western Bheel Agent. It is bounded by Nal, Singpoor, and Boodawul, and is very small, and quite unproductive.

In conclusion, I have to state that this account of the Chiefs over whom the Collector and Magistrate exercises political control has been chiefly compiled from the reports of Major Morris, my Political Assistant in charge of the Dang, and the petty State of Soorgana; and Lieutenant Newnham, Western Bheel Agent, who has political charge of the Mehwasee Chiefs.

BRIEF NOTES,

CONTAINING

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

CONNECTED WITH THE

PETTY NATIVE STATES UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE COLLECTOR OF KHANDESH.

BY

MR. S. MANSFIELD,

COLLECTOR OF THAT ZILLA.

Submitted to Government on the 22nd September 1854.

PETTY STATES OF KHANDESH.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION RESPECTING THE DANG COUNTRY.

The Dang country contains a superficial area of about one thousand square miles, and is divided into five principal and two smaller Dangs, in all seven forest tracts, as per margin. Each Dang has its own Bheel Chief, or Raja, though the Garvee Chief is looked upon by the others as the principal Raja. The respective names, titles, ages, and usual places of residence, &c. of the several Rajas are as follow.

1, Dang Garvee.
2, Dang Wassoorna.
3, Dang Amallee.
4, Dang Dherbowtee.
5, Dang Pimpree.
6, Dang Owchar.
7, Dang Chinchlee.

DANG GARVEE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

I.—Kerulsing wulud Oodesing, title Bheel Raja, aged sixteen years.

Residence.

II.—Usual place of residence Garvee.

Children and Court.

III.—He has no children. The principal persons of the Court* are Dewrao wulud Oodesing Raja; Morar Rao wulud Oodesing Raja; Nunnoo wulud Khem Raja; Davee Sing wulud Silput Raja (now in jail at Surat); Dowlut wulud Silput Raja (now in jail at Asseerghur); Roopdeo wulud Silput Raja; Dulloo wulud Lall Sing; Balloo, brother-in-law of Oodesing Raja; Boodia wulud Luximon, Karbaree; Dadajee Patel; Dhowjee Powar; and Sudasew Narain, Dewan.

Revenues.

V.—The revenues of this Suwusthan amount to Rs. 3,367-6-6, and Geeras Rs. 1,452.

Boundaries, and Area.

VI.—Dang Garvee is bounded on the north by Moujé Sajoo Para, Wagdura, and Kupperbund; on the south by Moujé Gowree and Chiklee, and Pullasvehr; on the east by Moujé

* The ages of these persons are not known.

Kel and Ess Ghat; and on the west by Moujé Kehkurdur and Kallia Bhootchee Baree. Its estimated area is three hundred square miles.

Population. XII.—The population numbers 1,585 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo; the language a mixture of Guzerathee and Hindustani; tribe and caste Bheel.

DANG WASSOORNA.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Bapoo wulud Anunda, title Bheel Raja, aged forty years.

Residence. II.—Usual place of residence Wassoorna.

Children. III.—He has legitimate male issue as follows:—1, Luximon wulud Bapoo, aged twenty years; 2, Bhowan wulud Bapoo, aged nine years; 3, Nowsa wulud Bapoo, aged eight years; 4, Ekya wulud Bapoo, aged seven years; 5, Nowsya wulud Bapoo, aged five years; 6, Khundoo wulud Bapoo, aged four years; and 7, Hybutee wulud Bapoo, aged three years.

Court. The principal persons of the Court are Sindia wulud Lukmunjee Koor (in confinement); Kooshya wulud Lukmunjee Koor; Purbhoo wulud Anunda Koor; Dulput wulud Anunda Koor; Fukeera; Devee Sing Koor; Bhugya Koor; Arjoon wulud Nuthoo, Karbaree; Bhika wulud Dewajee, Patel; Bajoo wulud Bhika, Patel; Ramjee wulud Hurjee; Owjee wulud Nowsoo Patel; and Sukaram Chundee, Dewan.

Revenues. V.—The revenues of this Suwusthan amount to Rs. 2,100, and Geeras Rs. 40.

Boundaries, and Area. VI.—Dang Wassoorna is bounded on the north by the Soopa Hills; on the south by Dewdongur of Soorgana; on the east by Malligaum and the Chip Ghat, and Moujé Dhunolee, Purguna Hatgur; and on the west by Chinch Para and Amba Para. Its estimated area is two hundred square miles.

Population. XII.—The population numbers 1,600 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo; the language a mixture of Guzerathee and Hindustani; tribe and caste Bheel.

DANG AMALLEE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Hassoo Sing wulud Purtab Sing, title Bheel Raja, aged thirty-five years.

Residence. II.—Usual place of residence Borkhul.

III.—He has legitimate male issue, viz. 1, Ruttunkoor wulud Hassoo Sing, aged fifteen years; 2, Luximon wulud Hassoo Sing, aged seven years; 3, Abheemun wulud Hassoo Sing, aged six years; 4, Doorjya wulud Hassoo Sing, aged five years; and 5, Hissun wulud Hassoo Sing, aged four years. Children.

The principal persons of the Court are Guddroo wulud Roybhan; Ekloo wulud Heerya; Dewjee wulud Kakrya; Goolal Sing wulud Nilkunt; Bhowanee wulud Ekya; Gorya wulud Kanhoo; Ekya wulud Ankoos; Bhow Sing wulud Purtab Sing; Goolya wulud Purtab Sing; Oodesing wulud Purtab Sing; Ram Sing wulud Koor; Eshwunt wulud Ramsing Koor; Bhew Sing wulud Mujeh Sing Koor; Dewajee wulud Kakrya, Karbaree; Bylya, Deshmook of Ghoree; Boodya Powar, of Church; Rama, Patel of Dhomkhul, and Dewan (dead). Court.

Revenues. V.—The revenues of this Suwusthan amount to Rs. 2,730, and Geeras Rs. 43-13-6.

VI.—Dang Amallee is bounded on the north by Sewaryachee Baree and Jamun Duggur; on the south by Moujé Jamdur and Wassoorna Dang; on the east by Moujé Beelund, Rahote Ghat, Moujé Doll Mandoor, and Kurda of Purguna Pimpla; and on the west by Pullasvehr and Pimpree. The estimated area includes two hundred square miles. Boundaries, and Area.

Population. XII.—The population amounts to 1,565 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo; the language a mixture of Guzerathee and Hindustani; tribe and caste Bheel.

DANG DHERBOWTEE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Vacant by the death of Ankoos wulud Bhudra Raja, title Bheel Raja, aged thirty-five years.

Residence. II.—Usual place of residence Dherbowtee.

III.—He has legitimate male issue, viz. 1, Nowloo wulud Ankoos Koor, aged sixteen years; 2, Rungya wulud Ankoos Koor, aged fifteen years; and 3, Nuthya wulud Ankoos Koor, aged twelve years. Children.

The principal persons of the Court are Wallia wulud Mahadoo Raja; Silput wulud Anunda Raja; Shamsing wulud Rajhounsee Raja; Teerya wulud Govinda, Karbaree; Kakrya wulud Bhewa, Karbaree; Nachnya wulud Bhuglee, Karbaree; and Toolseeram wulud Kasee, Dewan. Court.

Revenues. V.—The revenues of this Suwusthan amount to Rs. 2,478, and Geeras Rs. 709-0-3.

Boundaries, and Area. VI.—Dang Dherbowtee is bounded on the north by Sawurkhul and Kurwundia Mal; on the south by Moujé Beebool Para, Boorkhurree, and Moujé Tewseh; on the east by Moujé Kokur and Moujé Kothor; and on the west by Mowjé Visdhooleh, Nalla of Bordhun, and Moujé Patvehr. The estimated area contains one hundred and seventy square miles.

Population. XII.—Population 697 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—Religion Hindoo; language a mixture of Guzerathee and Hindustani; tribe and caste Bheel.

DANG PIMPREE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Trimbuk wulud Dulput Naik Bheel, title Naik Omrow, aged twenty-five years.

Residence. II.—Usual place of residence Pimpree.

Children and Court. III.—He has a son named Neeloo Baba, aged three years. The principal persons of the Court are Lalsing wulud Gyudur; Jysing wulud Wallia Naik; Ramjee wulud Dareesing Naik; Maharoo wulud Chutur Sing; Abdoo Karbaree; Gopeechund wulud Chutrya Naik; Ramjee wulud Kehra, Patel; and Sudasew wulud Nana Set, Dewan.

Revenues. V.—The revenues of this Suwusthan amount to Rs. 2,260.

Boundaries, and Area. VI.—Dang Pimpree is bounded on the north by Sadmal and Moujé Khatul Masolee; on the south by Kullum Hill; on the east by Moujé Chiktee and Pullasvehr; and on the west by the river called Zuriachee, and Sadur Dew. The number of square miles is one hundred.

Population. XII.—The estimated population is 974 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo; language a mixture of Guzerathee and Hindustani; tribe and caste Bheel.

DANG OWCHAR.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Krishna wulud Lahanoo Bheel Naik, aged thirty-five years.

Residence. II.—Usual place of residence Owchar.

III.—He has legitimate male issue, viz. 1, Dhurma wulud Krishna, aged twenty years; 2, Mogul wulud Krishna, aged eight years; 3, Munjoo wulud Krishna, aged five years; and 4, Dhunoo wulud Krishna, aged three years.

Children.

Court. Has no Court.

Revenues. V.—The revenues of this Suwusthan amount to Rs. 72.

VI.—Dang Owchar is bounded on the north by Beejoorpara; on the south by the Paras of Owchar and Chinchlee; on the east by the Paras of Garkuree and Zurree; and on the west by Moujé Wungar Ghoree. The estimated area includes eight square miles.

Boundaries, and Area.

Population. XII.—Population 257 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—Religion Hindoo; language a mixture of Guzerathee and Hindustani; tribe and caste Bheel.

DANG CHINCHLEE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Olshya wulud Khundoo Naik Bheel, title Naik Omrow, aged thirty years.

Residence. II.—Usual place of residence Chinchlee.

III.—He has legitimate male issue, viz. 1, Bhewrya wulud Olshya, aged six years; and 2, Hanwutta wulud Olshya, aged four years.

Children.

Court. Has no Court.

Revenues. V.—The revenues of this Suwusthan amount to Rs. 116.

VI.—Dang Chinchlee is bounded on the north by Kudmal; on the south by Moujé Gurrut, Kotya Dongur, and Parviacha Dongur; on the east by the Baboolna Ghat; and on the west by Mogra Para. It contains twenty-two square miles.

Boundaries, and Area.

Population. XII.—Its population is estimated at 573 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo; language a mixture of Guzerathee and Hindustani; tribe and caste Bheel.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

Besides the Bheels, there is in the Dang a class of men called Konkunees, who are the cultivators of the soil, and who reside in villages, being entirely subject to the Rajas.

Classes of People besides the Bheels.

Separation of the Dangs from the neighbouring Country. The Dangs collectively are enclosed and separated from the neighbouring country by ranges of high rocky mountains, except on the west, which is open.

Civilization, &c.

The Bheels of the Dang are the least civilized people in Khandesh. In their own country they live in a state of nature: their colour is of the darkest, their stature generally small, and their aspect most forbidding. They live in huts built of bamboos, wattle and dab, and are very fond of liquor and tobacco. The latter they smoke incessantly, rolled up like cigars, inside the leaf of the tree called Apta.

Climate.

The deadly effect which the climate of the Dang has on the European constitution deters any person from resorting to it except on duty. The only months in which it may be visited with comparative safety are April and May; but from the intensity of the heat, and the scarcity of water, it is with difficulty that any European can remain in it for many days, even in those months. The features of the country consist of a succession of hill and dale, covered with dense forests. The productions are the finest teak for ship-building, and other timber. The revenues of the Chiefs were (before the forests were farmed) principally derived from fees on timber, and on all produce passing through their country; the land revenue is very small, and collected in kind.

Prevailing Soils.

The prevailing soils are black and red earth in the valleys, and stony, with moorum, under the hills. There are no means of irrigation. The general features of the country are hill and dale.

Resources.

The natural resources are fruits, gums, lac, khat, roots of trees, many of which are turned to account, and the Dang potato, which is a remarkable production, weighing (each one) eight or ten pounds, and, if not generally known, should be brought to notice for its esculent properties. The Natives call it Boeekund.

There are no industrial resources, unless we may include as such the collection of a few roots, gums, and lac, which are sold in the neighbouring villages.

Routes.

The routes will be found at the end of these Notes.

Climate.

The climate is notoriously unhealthy; no range of thermometer kept.

Average Fall of Rain.

The average fall of rain is not known, but it is generally very heavy, and I should think that the average fall in the Konkun would be that of the Dang.

Administration of Justice.

With regard to the administration of civil and criminal justice, the Rajas investigate all offences and disputes, according to ancient custom, punishing principally by fines, and without any regular system of procedure or organised laws. It is only recently that we have interfered, before which they were in the habit of disposing of even the most serious crimes in a most summary manner; and if the punishment of death were awarded, the victim was shot to death with arrows. The belief in witchcraft was at one time very prevalent, and even now continues to be so. The Bheels were in the habit of burning witches alive, as has often been done in more civilized countries; this ceased after the

British Government took political charge of the country. Robbery is not very prevalent, as the Bheels scarcely ever steal from each other.

Education. Education is wholly unknown, and its attempted introduction by us is met with opposition, and attended with extreme difficulty.

Progress of Vaccination. Vaccination progresses as little as education. The inhabitants appear to have a thorough dread of it, and will not hear of it. Some time ago the Western Bheel Agent brought this subject to the notice of the Rajas, who appeared to receive it favourably, and accordingly a vaccinator was sent into the Dang; but on his arrival the inhabitants rejected all his attempts to introduce it, and he left without doing anything.

Diseases. The prevalent diseases are fever and disorder of the spleen, both of an aggravated kind; and, if caught by Europeans, the former is generally fatal to them, or otherwise clings to them for a long time.

SOORGANA.

The Petty State of Soorgana was first brought to the notice of our Government in 1818, the same period as Khandesh came into our possession. There are two Chiefs, who share conjointly the management of the manor: one is Rawee Rao wulud Bowajee Rao, and the other Morar Rao wulud Mulhar Rao.

Name, Title, and Age of 1st Chief. I.—Rawee Rao wulud Bowajee Rao, title Aujehat Deshmook, aged thirty-two years.

Residence. II.—Usual place of residence Neebur Ghoree, a hamlet of the Soorgana Suwusthan.

Children. III.—He has one son, named Shunkur Rao wulud Rawee Rao, aged four years.

Name, Title, Age, &c. of 2nd Chief. I B.—Morar Rao wulud Mulhar Rao, aged forty-one years, title Aujehat Deshmook; usual place of residence Bhudur, a hamlet of the Soorgana Suwusthan. He has legitimate male issue, viz. Bhaskur Rao, aged twelve years; Narain Rao, aged ten years; and Purshotum Rao, aged two years.

Court. The above two Chiefs have no Court; their Dewan is named Sukaram Kasinath, and is appointed by the Collector and Magistrate.

Tribute. IV.—The Deshmooks pay no tribute of any kind to the British Government, nor to any of the neighbouring States.

Revenue. V.—The estimated gross annual revenue of this Suwusthan amounts to Rs. 1,401-4-0; Kullalee Rs. 2,364; and Zukat Rs. 3,105-3-0; total Rs. 6,870-7-0.

VI.—Soorgana is bounded on the north by the Dang Wassoorna; on the south by the Penth country; on the west by the territories of the Rajas of Dhurumpoor and Bansda; and on the east by the Sahyadree range of mountains. The estimated area is about three hundred and sixty square miles.

Boundaries, and Area.

VII.—The prevailing soils are black and red earth in the valleys, and stony, with moorum, under the hills. There is no irrigation, except from wells, which are very few. The general features of the country are hill and dale.

Soil, and general Features of the Country.

VIII.—The natural resources are fruits, honey, gums, lac, khat, and roots of trees, many of which are turned to account. The industrial resources are the cultivation and sale of the following grains:—rice, sawa, tooree, naglee, kodroo, khoorasnee, wuraee, ooreed, and burtee.

Resources.

IX.—The routes, various in Soorgana, will be found at the end of these Notes.

Routes.

X.—The climate is notoriously unhealthy; no range of thermometer kept.

Climate.

XI.—The average fall of rain is not known, but it is generally very heavy. I should think that the average fall in the Konkun would be that of Soorgana.

Average Fall of Rain.

XII.—The population amounts to 1,539 souls.

Population.

XIII.—Religion Hindoo; tribe and caste Konkunee Koonbee; language Murathee.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste.

XIV. & XV.—With regard to the administration of civil and criminal justice, the Deshmooks investigate all offences and disputes, according to ancient custom, punishing principally by fines, and without any regular system of procedure, or organised laws. It is only recently that we have interfered.

Administration of Justice.

XVI.—Education was formerly wholly unknown, but since the Political Agency has been established, it has been introduced, and the scholars, who number fifteen, are getting on very nicely. Major Morris holds an examination on his yearly tour, and gives them presents for proficiency.

Education.

XVII.—Vaccination is entirely unknown, and I fear it will be difficult to introduce it, owing to the belief that small-pox is a scourge sent by their deity Davee. It is difficult to make them understand how it can be prevented by the remedies of Europeans.

Vaccination.

XVIII.—The prevalent diseases are fever, and disorder of the spleen, both of an aggravated kind; and, if caught by Europeans, the former is generally fatal to them, or otherwise clings to them for a long time.

Diseases.

WUSAWA OF CHIKLEE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

I.—Ram Sing Wusawa is son of the deposed Kooer Wusawa, and is entitled a Mehwasee, and aged about twenty-three years.

Residence.

II.—His place of residence is Chiklee, within the Chiklee Suwusthan, a village composed of about one hundred and eighty huts, inhabited by Bheels.

Children and Court.

III.—Ram Sing Wusawa, though married, has as yet no issue, and his nearest male relatives are his cousin Raja Wusawa (head of the Nundoorbar Mehwasee Police), the son of Chawur Wusawa, about thirty-five years of age, and Sonjee Wusawa, the son of Futtia Wusawa, who is about eighteen years of age.

Tribute.

IV.—This family's position is determined by the Honorable Court's despatch No. 34 of 1852, dated the 10th November, to be nominally and ceremonially a feudatory of Rajpeepla, but treated with by the British Government as an independent Chief.

Revenues.

V.—The annual revenue of the estate is Rs. 127-14-0, and receives a monthly Koontee allowance from the British Government of Rs. 250, Rs. 50 of which is retained to form a fund for the subsistence of Kooer Wusawa, when released from the Dhoolia Jail.

Boundaries.

VI.—The Chiklee Suwusthan is bounded on the north by Gowhalee; on the south by the Taptee; on the east by the Kookurmoonda Purguna; and on the west by Sagbarra. As this Suwusthan has not been surveyed, I have no means of stating its estimated area.

Soil.

VII.—The soil in the immediate vicinity of the Taptee is good. The Suwusthan is, however, overrun with jungle, which the scantiness of its population is scarcely able to keep from increasing. Irrigation does not exist.

Resources.

VIII.—The industry of its inhabitants is confined to the rude cultivation of naglee, burtee, bajree, and jowaree, which grains they consume as food; and the collection of moho flowers, wax, honey, and charoolee nuts.

Routes, &c.

IX.—There are no means of communication by water; and the approaches to and through Chiklee are by two rough unmade beaten tracks, formerly used for carts, one running from the neighbourhood of Kookurmoonda to the village of Singree, one mile short of Chiklee, and the other from Kookurmoonda, through Chiklee, to Gowhalee and Sagbarra.

Climate.

X.—I have no means of stating the average range of the thermometer. The general climate is extremely bad, being visitable by Europeans only in May.

Rain. XI.—Nor have I the power to state the average fall of rain.

Population. XII.—The population in 1854 was about males 363, females 338, total 701 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribes, and Castes. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo, and the language is a mixture of Guzerathee, Murathee, and Hindustani, and may be termed Bheel. The tribes inhabiting Chiklee are the Wusawa, Gaweet, Wulvee, and Parvee Bheels.

Administration of Justice. XIV.—Civil and criminal justice is administered by the Political Agent according to the rules passed by Government, and published in the *Government Gazette* dated 23rd March 1854, pages 438 to 444.

Punishment for Crime. XV.—Crime is punished in accordance with the spirit of the Regulations.

Education. XVI.—The Bheel children who desire to be educated are instructed at the Bheel-school at Kookurmoonda, where they receive subsistence money at Rs. 1-8-0 each per mensem.

Vaccination. XVII.—I have no means of stating whether any progress in vaccination has been made.

Diseases XVIII.—The prevalent diseases are small-pox, fever, jungle fever, and cholera.

RANA OF BOODAWUL.*

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Gunputsing, the late Rana of Boodawul, having died without heirs, there is now no heir to this Suwusthan, Government not having yet determined whether this estate is to lapse to it, or whether it is to be conferred on the sons of Raesing, a distant connexion of the late Rana.

Residence. II.—The usual place of residence of the late Rana was Boodawul.

Children and Court. III.—The late Rana left no legitimate issue. There is no Court.

Tribute. IV.—Boodawul seems to have been originally independent, but latterly tributary to the Peshwa; but having been found in a state of independence, it was treated with by Captain Briggs, in 1818, as an independent State, having tributary to it Kati, Singpoor, and Nal.

Revenues. V.—The annual revenue of the estate is Rs. 1,936-7-3.

* The Estates of the Chiefs of Chiklee, Boodawul, Gowhalee, Kati, Singpoor, Nal, and Parvee were exempted by the Regulations by Act XI. of 1846.

VI.—Boodawul is situated in the Sooltanpoor Talooka, between the Taptee and the Satpoora, by which mountain it is bounded on the north; on the south and east by the Kookurmoonda Purguna; and on the west by the States of Singpoor and Nal. It has never been surveyed, and I am therefore unable to state its area.

Boundaries.

VII.—That part of the soil which has been cleared of jungle is of a middling description. Irrigation does not exist, and the estate for the most part is covered with a stunted jungle.

Soil.

VIII.—The industry of the people is confined to the cultivation of the grains consumed by Bheels, and to the collection of moho flowers, wax, honey, &c.

Resources.

IX.—Boodawul is approached from Tulloda, from which it is distant four miles; as also from Kookurmoonda. The roads are practicable for carts. There is no water communication.

Routes, &c.

X.—I have no means of stating the average range of thermometer; the climate is similar to that of the Sooltanpoor Talooka, fever abounding after the rains.

Climate.

Rain.

XI.—I have no means of stating the fall of rain.

Population.

XII.—The population of Boodawul consists of 492 males and 418 females, total 910 souls; distributed in fourteen villages.

Religion, Language, Tribes, and Castes.

XIII.—The religion of the inhabitants is Hindoo; language Bheel; the inhabitants are Bheels of the Parvee, Gaweet, and Wulvee tribes.

Administration of Justice.

XIV.—As in other Bheel Mehwasee States, civil and criminal justice is administered by the Political Agent, under the rules passed by Government.

Punishment for Crime.

XV.—Offences are punished in accordance with the spirit of the Regulations.

Education.

XVI.—Every inducement is offered to persuade parents to send their children to the Bheel school at Kookurmoonda, and the Government support the children while there, by allowing them Rs. 1-8-0 each per mensem for subsistence, during their attendance at the school. Parents do not, however, often avail themselves of these terms.

Vaccination.

XVII.—I have no means of stating whether any progress in vaccination has been made.

Diseases.

XVIII.—The prevalent diseases are fever, small-pox, jungle fever, and cholera.

THE GOWHALEEKUR.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief.

I.—Katia wulud Nana Wulvee, Mehwasee of Gowhalee, about fourteen years of age.

Residence. II.—His chief village, and the place of his family's residence, is Raisingpoor; but as he is a student at the Bheel school at Kookurmoonda, he now resides there.

Nearest Relatives. III.—Dowjee Wulvee, the uncle of this Chief, is his nearest male relative, and is about thirty-five years of age, and manages his affairs.

Tribute. IV.—The Wulvee Chieftain is a feudatory of the British Government.

Revenues. V.—I have no means of stating its annual revenue, as the Chief has no accounts, and receives no money payments, but is paid in kind. Rs. 1,000 Babasye are annually received by him from the Gaekwar, as also a Koontee allowance of Rs. 300 from the British Government; and it is supposed he realizes Rs. 500 a year from people who procure teakwood from the jungles of his estate.

Boundaries. VI.—The Suwusthan of Gowhalee is bounded on the north by the Kati and Rajpeepla territories; on the south by Chiklee; on the east by the Kookurmoonda Purguna; and on the west by Sagbarra. The estate has not been surveyed, and therefore I am unable to state its estimated area.

Soil. VII.—The soil is stony, and the country is composed of a number of irregular hills, almost entirely covered with thick bamboo and timber jungle.

Resources. VIII.—The industry of the inhabitants is confined to the cutting of timber, which is sold at Tulloda, and the cultivation of naglee, buntee, bajree, jowaree, and the collection of moho flowers, wax, and honey.

Routes, &c. IX.—Gowhalee is approached from Chiklee and Nal; its distance from Chiklee is seven kos, from Nal six kos. The road is practicable for carts. There is no water communication.

Climate. X.—The climate in these dense jungles is most insalubrious, and no stranger can reside in it very long, owing to the malaria, and unwholesomeness of its water. I have no means of stating the average range of the thermometer.

Rain. XI.—Nor have I the power to state the average fall of rain.

Population. XII.—The population is estimated at about 76 males and 73 females, total 149 souls; distributed in fourteen villages.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo; the language and population Bheel.

Administration of Justice. XIV.—Civil and criminal justice is administered according to the rules passed by Government.

Punishment for Crime. XV.—Punishment is awarded in accordance with the spirit of the Regulations.

Education. XVI.—There is no educational establishment.

Diseases. XVIII.—The most prevalent diseases are small-pox, fever, jungle fever, cholera, and malaria, &c.

THE KATIKUR.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Oomed wulud Luxumon Parvee, Mehwasee of Kati, is about forty years of age.

Residence. II.—His place of residence is Kati, within the Satpooras.

Children and Relatives. III.—His son, Rootoo Parvee, is the principal person connected with him, and is about twenty years of age. There is no Court.

Tribute. IV.—This Chief was formerly a tributary of Boodawul, to which he pays a yearly Nuzurana of Rs. 32.

Revenues. V.—I have no means of exactly stating the annual revenue, for its Chief has no accounts; but the amount was ascertained in 1849 by Lieutenant Rigby, then Western Bheel Agent, to be about six or seven thousand rupees per annum. It had then been mortgaged to a Soukar of Nandod, but is not now so. Rs. 450 are yearly paid to it by the British Government as a Koontee allowance.

Boundaries. VI.—The Suwusthan of Kati is bounded on the north by the Oodeypoor State; on the south by the Suwusthans of Singpoor and Chiklee; on the east by the Akranee Purguna; and on the west by the State of Rajpeepla and that of Gowhalee. I have no means of estimating its area.

Soil. VII.—The soil in the villages between the ridges of hills is good. There is no irrigation, and the State consists of a succession of narrow valleys, separated by ridges of lofty, irregular hills, covered with thick jungle.

Resources. VIII.—The industry of its population is confined entirely to the rude cultivation of the grains they consume for food.

Routes, &c. IX.—Kati is approached from the Kookurmoonda Purguna by the Imleebaree Pass, distant from Kookurmoonda four kos, to the foot of which there is a cart-road. From the bottom of the Imleebaree Pass to Beer seven kos, from which Kati is seven kos; this road can alone be travelled by bullocks, horses, &c.; and from Dhurgaum, in the Akranee Purguna, which road is also practicable for bullocks, &c.

Climate. X.—I have no means of affording any information regarding its climate, save that it is so unhealthy that Europeans cannot visit it till the end of April or the beginning of May, owing to its thick jungle.

Rain. XI.—I am also unable to state its annual fall of rain.

Population. XII.—Its estimated population is not more than 1,000 or 1,200 souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion of the inhabitants is Hindoo; their language that used by the Bheels which belong to the Mutwaria, Powra, Wuralee, and Parvee tribes; together with a few descendants from Musulmans, and Bheels, who, during the fever season, after the rains, generally live at Nundoorbar.

Administration of Justice. XIV.—Civil and criminal justice is administered by the Political Agent, according to the rules passed by Government.

Punishment for Crime. XV.—Punishment for criminal offences is awarded in accordance with the spirit of the Regulations.

Education. XVI.—There is no educational establishment.

Vaccination. XVII.—Neither is there any regular vaccinating establishment which visits these parts. The Western Bheel Agent, when visiting Kati, introduces vaccination as much as he is able to do.

Diseases. XVIII.—The prevailing diseases are small-pox, fever, jungle fever, and cholera.

THE SINGPOORKUR.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—The Chief of Singpoor is named Bhikna wulud Raila Parvee, and is styled a Mehwasee. He is about sixty years of age.

Residence. II.—His place of residence is Singpoor.

Children and Relatives. III.—The principal person connected with this Chief is his son Goomla Parvee, who is about twenty years of age, and also for several years was a scholar in the Bheel school of Kookurmoonda.

Tribute. IV.—This Chief is a tributary of Boodawul, to which State he pays a yearly Nuzurana of Rs. 10.

Revenues. V.—The revenue varies from Rs. 100 to Rs. 140 a year. This Chief has no accounts, and receives a Koontee allowance of Rs. 100.

Boundaries. VI.—The Singpoor Suwusthan is bounded on the north by the Satpooras; on the south by the Kookurmoonda Purguna; on the east by Nal; and on the west by Boodawul.

This estate has not been surveyed, and I am therefore unable to state its estimated area.

Soil. VII.—The soil is good, but little cultivated, save in the immediate vicinity of the villages. There is no irrigation, and the country is flat, and entirely covered with jungle.

Resources. VIII.—The industry of the inhabitants is confined to the cultivation of the grain they eat, and the collection of moho flowers, wax, &c.

Routes, &c. IX.—Singpoor is approached from Nal and Kookurmoonda. From the latter it is distant six kos, and from Nal eight kos. The roads are practicable for carts. There is no water communication.

Climate. X.—I am unable to state the average range of the thermometer; the climate is unhealthy, from its jungle.

Rain. XI.—I am also unable to state the average annual fall of rain.

Population. XII.—The population is estimated at 16 males and 16 females, total 32 souls; distributed in three villages.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo; the language of the inhabitants is Bheel.

Administration of Justice. XIV.—Civil and criminal justice is administered by the Political Agent, according to the rules passed by Government.

Punishment for Crime. XV.—Crime is punished in accordance with the spirit of the Regulations.

Education. XVI.—None of the children on the estate attend the Kookurmoonda school.

Vaccination. XVII.—When the Western Bheel Agent visits these parts, he endeavours to introduce vaccination amongst its population.

Diseases. XVIII.—The prevalent diseases are small-pox, fever, jungle fever, cholera, &c.

NAL.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—The Chief of Nal is Kanid Parvee, styled a Mehwasee, and is about thirty years of age.

Residence. II.—His usual place of residence is Nal, in the Nal Suwusthan.

Children. III.—He has a son, named Phuljee Parvee, about five years old. There is no Court.

Tribute. IV.—He is a tributary of Boodawul, and pays that State a yearly Nuzurana of Rs. 10.

Revenues. V.—The annual revenue amounts to about Rs. 20 or Rs. 25, with a Koontee allowance of Rs. 200.

Boundaries. VI.—Nal is bounded on the north and south by the Kookurmoonda Purguna; on the east and west by the Estates of Gowhalee and Boodawul; and contains two inhabited and four uninhabited villages.

Soil. VII.—The soil is middling. There is no irrigation, and, except in the immediate vicinity of villages, the estate is covered with jungle.

Resources. VIII.—The industry of the people is confined to the cultivation of the grain they consume as food.

Routes, &c. IX.—Nal is approached from Boodawul and Gowhalee by roads which can be travelled by carts. From Kookurmoonda it is distant two miles, and from Gowhalee fourteen miles. There is no water communication.

Climate. X.—The climate is, like that of all the petty Mehwasee States, unhealthy, from its position in the centre of jungles. I have no means of stating the average range of the thermometer.

Rain. XI.—Nor have I the power to state the average fall of rain.

Population. XII.—The population of Nal consists of about thirty souls.

Religion, Language, Tribe, and Caste. XIII.—The religion is Hindoo; the language spoken by the people Bheel; of which caste they are.

Administration of Justice. XIV.—Civil and criminal justice is administered by the Political Agent, according to rules.

Punishment for Crime. XV.—Punishment is awarded in accordance with the spirit of the Regulations.

Education. XVI.—The children on the estate can attend the Bheel school at Kookurmoonda, but they do not do so.

Vaccination. XVII.—When the Western Bheel Agent visits the neighbourhood, he endeavours to introduce vaccination amongst its population.

Diseases. XVIII.—The prevalent diseases are fever, jungle fever, small-pox, and cholera.

RYLIA PARVEE.

Name, Title, and Age of Chief. I.—Queria wulud Raja Parvee, styled a Mehwasee, is about thirty years of age.

Residence. II.—His usual place of residence is Gur Walcree, in the Boodawul Suwusthan.

Relatives. III.—The principal person connected with him is Ditia Parvee, about twenty-two years of age.

Tribute. IV.—This Chief was formerly dependent on Boodawul, but is now independent. His estate has for several years been deserted; he is now trying to induce people to inhabit it. I am unable to afford any information on the other points.

Boundaries. VI.—The estate is bounded by Nal, Singpoor, and Boodawul; is very small; and quite unproductive.

LIST OF ROUTES, APPROACHES, AND MEANS OF COMMUNICATION BY LAND, IN THE DANG COUNTRY.

[*The distances are not measured, but given by guess.*]

Dang Garvee.

From the North.

	Miles.
Songhur—	
Kuppurbund	14
Burdeepara	2
Garvee	14

From the South.

Veerset or Kachun Ghat—	
Ramode	6
Linga	4
Mulpara	6
Garvee	4
Khamata Ghat, 2nd Route—	
Mahaloong	2
Goondeh	2
Chiklee	6
Garvee	14

From the East.

Ess Ghat—	
Zurree	2
Owepara	5
Dhooda	2
Garvee	6
Baboolna Ghat, 2nd Route—	
Chinchlee	1
Dhongia Amba	4
Dhoodia	4
Garvee	6

From the West.

Jullalpoor—	
Nowsaree	12
Moho	18
Wallore	14
Tokurwa	10
Kuppurbund	6
Burdeepara	2
Garvee	14
Jullalpoor, 2nd Route—	
Nowsaree	12
Moho	18
Wulwara	10
Antapoor	14
Kakurda	8

	Miles.
Chikulda	10
Masolee	2
Garvee	8
Bulsar Coast, 3rd Route—	
Atrapeer	16
Kosunnawul	18
Khurjaie	8
Zurree	4
Pimpree	8
Gobree	6
Garvee	6

DANG WASSOORNA.

From the North.

Barkhul—	
Wassoorna	3

From the South.

Munkhud Baree—	
Khootvehr	16
Wassoorna	6
Dewulduree, 2nd Route—	
Babkhul	4
Wassoorna	6
Sathbablah Ghat, 3rd Route—	
Shreebowun	12
Goomda	4
Wassoorna	6

From the East.

Chip Ghat—	
Malgaum	2
Wassoorna	10

From the West.

Bulsar Coast—	
Atrapeer	16
Wasda	18
Khamla	8
Rumbhas	8
Wassoorna	8

Bulsar Coast, 2nd Route—	Miles.
Atrapeer	16
Kosunnawul	18
Khurjaie	8
Zurree	4
Pimpree	8
Suttee	6
Wassoorna	4

DANG AMALLEE.

From the North.

Garvee—	
Chunkhul	2
Awah	2
Borkhul	4

From the South.

Wassoorna—	
Borkhul	3

From the East.

Amallee Ghat—	
Kamode	4
Gudkool	6
Veer Amba	2
Borkhul	4
Rachun Ghat, 2nd Route—	
Tembhroon Vara	2
Borkhul	12

From the West.

Bulsar Coast—	
Atrapeer	16
Kosunnawul	18
Choonawaree	8
Koeta	4
Borkhul	8
Bulsar Coast, 2nd Route—	
Atrapeer	16
Kosunnawul	18
Khurjaie	8

	Miles.
Zurree	4
Pimpree	6
Mulchoond	6
Borkhul	6

Dang Dherbowtee.

From the North.

Mulumdeo—

Seenud	6
Kurundia Mal	2
Sawurkhul	2
Dherbowtee	4

From the South.

Garvee—

Patvehr	2
Kussar	4
Dherbowtee	4

From the East.

Ghat Zakraie—

Khamle	4
Haldoodahar	4
Dherbowtee	4

From the West.

Jullalpoor—

Nowsaree	12
Moho	18
Wallode	14
Sadurvehr	14
Dabdhur	6
Kudmal	16
Dherbowtee	4

Dang Pimpree.

From the North.

Khatul Masolee of Garvee—

Sodmal	2
Dhondoneh	4
Pimpree	4

From the South.

Wassoorna—

Pimpree	8

From the East.

Garvee—

	Miles.
Gobree	6
Kulhumdahar	2
Pimpree	4

From the West.

Bulsar Coast—

Atrapeer	16
Khurjaie	18
Zurree	4
Pimpree	8

Dang Owchar.

From the North.

Dherbowtee—

Pimpla Davee	4
Owchar	2

From the South.

Sarneh—

Pandwah	2
Mogra	2
Owchar	2

From the East.

Baboolna Ghat—

Harpara	4
Owchar	4

From the West.

Garvee—

Dhoodeh	8
Wunjar Ghoree	2
Owchar	1

Dang Chinchlee.

From the North.

Zurree—

Garkhuree	2
Kudmall	4

	Miles.
Chinchlee	2
From the South.	
Sullair Hill, no Route.	
From the East.	
Baboolna Ghat, or Waghtumbeacha Ghat—	
Chinchlee	1
From the West.	
Garvee—	Miles.
Malpara	4
Mogra	8
Gudut	1
Chinchlee	2
Sarneh, 2nd Route—	
Gudut	4
Chinchlee	2

LIST OF ROUTES, APPROACHES, AND MEANS OF COMMUNICATION BY LAND, IN SOORGANA.

[*The distances are not measured, but given by guess.*]

From the North.	
Wassoorna—	Miles.
Chiklee	2
Goondohol	6
Nurruk Choud	4
Manmooree	2
Soolgana	2
From the South.	
Penth, 1st Route—	
Munkhud	26
Omurda	6
Mannee	2
Malgowun	4
Soolgana	2
Dindoree, 2nd Route—	
Bhunwud	16
Pathurdee	4
Koonbheechapara	2
Bheetgur	1
Moujé Bheevul	1
Moujé Amudgaon	2
Moujé Malgowun	2
Soolgana	2
From the East.	
Hutgur, 1st Route—	
Nagshewree	4
Huttee	2
Soolgana	2
Abhoona, 2nd Route—	
Bhugordee	1
Chunkapoor	1
Desgaum	4
Lingauma	4
Boregaum	4
Cheeraie	5
Booblee	2
Soolgana	4
From the West.	
Bansda, 1st Route—	
Mankoona	8
Veewur	4
Goohee Jamun Para	4
Wangun	6
Omurthan	2
Katteepara	2
Kotooleh	2
Ambhata	2
Soolgana	6
Dhurumpoor, 2nd Route—	
Pimpulpara	22
Mhyes Khuruch	6
Soolgana	12

GAEKWAR'S TERRITORY
HOLKAR'S TERRITORY
NIZAM'S TERRITORY
NORTH WESTERN BEELGAR
NORTHERN BEELGAR
SOUTHERN BEELGAR
RANGE
Kherlee
Purhasa
Mandesher
Nunnala
Sindhar
Chimlana
Newapoor
Dowlutabad Pass
Dowlutabad
Aurungabad
Jamnair
Berenar
Bedsur
Purolah
Dholna
Pimpulnaur
Pahoor Ft.
Hattina Ft.
Tulling Ft.
Chowkur Ft.
Nampoor
Malligaum
Chalisgaon
Sendhana
Ellgaon
Chanders Ft.
Unky Tunky Ft.
Koreendee Pass
Ajunta Range
Chandore Pass
Chandore
Mandgaon
Chopra
Burdee
Amulnair
Jamnair
Berinda
Burgaon
Yeola
Yeolla
Nasmalla
Yenkur
Fe Aurungabad
Fe Indore
Fe Dhoolia
Fe Chandore
Fe Ellichpoor
Fe Nagpoor
Fe Burhanpoor
Fe Malligaum
Fe Chandore

HISTORICAL SKETCH

OF THE

BHEEL TRIBES INHABITING THE PROVINCE OF KHANDESH;

ACCOMPANIED BY AN

OUTLINE, DOWN TO THE YEAR 1843, OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE CONCILIATORY LINE OF POLICY WHICH HAS BEEN OBSERVED TOWARDS THESE RUDE TRIBES, BY THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT, FROM THE YEAR 1825.

BY

CAPTAIN D. C. GRAHAM,

19TH REGIMENT BOMBAY NATIVE INFANTRY,

COMMANDING THE BHEEL CORPS, IN KHANDESH.

WITH CONTINUATION,

FROM THE YEAR 1843 TO THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1855,

BY CAPTAIN J. ROSE,

3RD BOMBAY EUROPEAN REGIMENT,

SECOND IN COMMAND, AND ACTING COMMANDANT OF THE KHANDESH BHEEL CORPS, &c.

BHEEL TRIBES OF KHANDESH.

PART I.

THE BHEELS OF KHANDESH, UNTIL THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE AMELIORATION SYSTEM, IN 1825.

THE Province of Khandesh is an extensive, fertile, and well-watered plain, of about thirteen thousand square miles in extent, and interspersed with ranges of low barren hills, at the base of which run numerous rivers and rivulets, flowing from the table-land into the river Taptee. (A map of the province is appended.) This province is nearly surrounded by broad chains of mountains, whose sides are clothed in noxious vegetation, where, for many months of the year, none but the hardy denizen of the hill can exist, and where, secure in the unwholesome fastnesses of these more elevated regions, the cateran could undisturbedly collect his wild force, and burst from the bosom of the mist upon the unsuspecting prey on the plain.

The tabular trap hills of the Satpooras, which form the northern boundary of the province, are separated from each other by ravines of vast magnitude, and are covered with splendid forests, which afford, amidst the most romantic scenery, unbounded shelter to the outlaw. On the west, the great Sukhein Range rises steep and stony: these Ghats, however, are not broken, but sustain tangled masses of bamboo, which is found nowhere else in greater luxuriance, or more difficult of access; whilst the continuous ranges of Chandore, Satmulla, and Ajunta, bound the province to the south, and the thick Babool jungle which shrouds their thousand dark dells presents equal difficulties to the pursuit of the offender, as do the low sterile hillocks which to the eastward separate Khandesh from the rich plains of Berar.

The roads, also, until a late period, were ill-appointed, and deficient in everything but discomfort and danger: few and far between were the miserable hamlets, and the passes through the mountains were rugged and impracticable as their fierce possessors. The decline of this rich province, from the flourishing condition which it had obtained under its Mahomedan masters,

is to be dated from the year 1802, when it was ravaged by Holkar's army. This blow was followed by a famine in 1803, and its ruin was subsequently consummated by the rapacity and misgovernment of the Peshwa's officers. The Bheels, who had heretofore mixed with the other inhabitants, and had, as village watchmen, been the great instruments of police throughout Khandesh, being now reduced to a state of starving desperation, withdrew to the surrounding mountains. The Pindarees meanwhile annually ravaged the open country, while various insurgents plundered at the head of bodies of horse; and parties of Arabs, establishing themselves in the numerous fastnesses and forts, laid all the neighbourhood under heavy contribution. The expulsion of the Arabs was a natural consequence of the war, and the bodies of plundering horsemen were unable to keep the field; but the settlement of the Bheels proved to be an undertaking of much greater difficulty.

From remote ages, the Bheels have been recognised as a distinct people; and in a Sanscrit Vocabulary about seven hundred years old, the term "Bheel" is used to denote a peculiar race of barbarians, subsisting chiefly on plunder, and found more particularly on the mountainous tract along the Nerbudda. Still earlier mention of this race is made in the celebrated Hindoo Poem of the Mahabhurat, where the Bheels are minutely described, and a long and fabulous account is there given of their origin; but although frequently noticed in the Mahomedan histories of Malwa and Guzerat as a powerful nation, inhabiting the mountains and forests of Meywar and Oodeypoor, having independent Chiefs and Rajas, and holding their own Courts and Durbars, yet the most ancient records of Khandesh merely allude to the residence of the tribe in small numbers on the northern boundary of the province, which may, indeed, be considered as a spur from the vast mountainous tract then possessed by the nation.

The Bheels being driven by other tribes from Meywâr and Jodhpoor, settled amongst the rocky ranges of the Satpoora, the Vindhya, and the Satmulla, and amidst the woody banks of the Mahee, the Nerbudda, and the Taptee, where, protected by the strong nature of the country, they have since dwelt, subsisting partly on their own industry, but more generally on the plunder of the rich landholders in their vicinity; considering depredation on the inhabitants of the plain as a sort of privilege, and a tax upon all persons passing through the country of their occupation as a national right.

The bulk of the Bheel population in Khandesh, which is estimated at one-eighth of the entire inhabitants of the province, is chiefly settled in Baglan and to the north and north-west, where they in general reside peaceably as Patels, cultivators, and proprietors of the soil. In this portion of the province they are not so degraded, because they are not so completely destitute of all those claims that usually command consideration: they are not so exposed to want, nor so inured to hardships, and, therefore, neither so reckless of their own nor the lives of others; and possessing landed property, obligations as proprietors are imposed. The respect of others necessarily induces a certain degree of

self-respect; and in proportion as these essentials are present or absent the Bheels are more or less civilized, and inclined to live in peace and quietness. The most restless and troublesome are those dwelling immediately at the foot and amidst the recesses of the surrounding ranges, who, at different periods, have either usurped, or have been entrusted with all the passes leading into the country, and till lately have held charge of many of the most important fortresses in the plains.

The Natives of the plain, in appearance, are scarcely to be distinguished from the other classes of society, though differing widely in character: exposure, fatigue, and poverty have left their accustomed marks on the diminutive figure and the deep-lined countenance of the hardy denizen of the hill; but all are patient under privation, and able to endure great bodily fatigue. Reckless of life, active and intelligent, the race is peculiarly adapted for the daring foray and the night attack. Their habits and ideas, however, are totally opposed to agricultural labour; the motives which lead to the gradual accumulation of property are faint and insufficient; and honest mechanical craft is despised with the most thorough contempt.

Few of the notorious Naiks, who for so many years kept the country in such a state of ferment, and whose will was so implicitly and ruthlessly obeyed, could produce any proof of the antiquity of their authority. Under a weak administration, adventitious circumstance and personal adventure raised the daring robber to the powerful Chief, who, on his death-bed, had little to bequeath to his children except his hardy band of followers, and the same wide expanse of plain to be sacked, upon which he had himself subsisted during his lifetime; and it mainly depended upon the abilities of his successor whether or not, as a fortunate leader, he could preserve the services and affections of his clan.

Their most ancient recorded deeds refer only to the time of the Emperor Aurungzebe, when many of the leading men, being seized after a long struggle, were released on their professing the Mahomedan faith, and their usurped authority over the districts was partially recognised, on the condition of the protection of the passes and fortresses, and the superintendence of the village Jaglas; but the greater portion relapsed into idolatry under the Muratha Government, and every fresh change and commotion proved the signal for encamping among the mountains, where, joined by their own adherents, and other vagrant adventurers, they plundered far and near.

Their hivelike habitations formerly crested the top of each isolated hill, where approach from every side was easily defended or immediately discovered, and these hovels, not reared for permanent occupation, but hastily put together, to be crept into for a few months or weeks, were without regret abandoned on any occasion that induced the occupants to shift their quarters. Roving and restless by disposition, and skilful hunters by necessity, the woods and jungles supplied them with roots, berries, and game; a successful foray filled their stores to overflowing; and as every man's hand was lifted

against them, so the measure of wrath was fully returned by the tribe, whose powers of mischief far exceeded those of their numerous oppressors, and whose habits and locations enabled them to bid such a lengthy defiance to so many Governments.

Formerly, in all the districts adjoining the hills, the chief Naiks of the Purguna, on the occurrence of a vacancy, had the right of appointing the Jagla; but from long possession, the village occupation in time became hereditary, and the watchmen, as members of the community, were bound alone to obey the Patel, the head of the village, so long as the established dues were forthcoming.

Their duties were many and multifarious,—to protect the property of the village from plunderers and the crops from stray cattle, to escort travellers, to keep watch at night, to find out all arrivals and departures, observe all strangers, and report all suspicious characters to the Patel. The watchman was likewise bound to know the character of each man in the village, and, in the event of a theft being committed, it was his duty to detect the thief;—this he was enabled to do by his skill in tracing footmarks, by his early habits of inquisitiveness and observation, as well as by the nature of his allowance, which being partly a small share of grain and other property belonging to each house, he was kept always on the watch to ascertain his fees, and continually in motion to collect them.

The Jagla was answerable for the peace and protection of the village, whilst the Naik held the responsibility of the district; and the Huks received for the duties all more or less partook of the nature of blackmail, and had their origin in the same circumstances,—they were taxes wrung from the husbandman, without much system or method, for their forbearance from plunder, for the guarding of certain passes, and for affording protection to merchants along the roads.

The more civilized generally apply the term Bheel to all who lead a lawless life, and who reside in a remote jungly country; but the name is given to many who do not acknowledge it; and the following are the only clans in Khandesh who deserve the appellation:—

The *Turvees*, who embraced the Mahomedan faith during the reign of Aurungzebe, and who inhabit the country to the north-east of the province, from Arrawud to Boorhanpoor. They are a fine race of men, and, abhorring the idea of leaving their immediate homes, are somewhat more inclined to agriculture than others of this roving class; but in the times of disorder they frequently accompanied the Pindarees during plundering excursions, and gained a name for licentiousness fully equal to that of their allies. The fairer complexion and finer feature of the Turvees may be traced to the Mahomedan colonists whom the Mogul policy had located among the hills.

Immediately in the neighbourhood of the Turvees are a savage set of beings termed *Nahals*, who exist perfectly wild among the mountains, subsisting chiefly on roots, fruits, and berries: they court no intercourse with others, and dwell in the unrestrained freedom and hardship of an utter savage existence.

Marriage contracts, as well as all other religious ceremonies, are entirely dispensed with, and the assorted pair are free to live together whilst they choose, or separate at pleasure and convenience; the infant accompanies its mother to her next abode, but the grown up children remain with the father. The Nahals are dark and diminutive in stature, and their features are exceedingly ill-favoured. A few of this tribe cultivate a little grain among the ashes of the burnt boughs of the forest, or barter the produce of their jungles for cloth; but they are very seldom to be met with beyond the immediate bounds of their unhealthy location.

Another race of Mahomedan Bheels, termed *Nírdhi*, reside about the Ajunta range, in the Purgunas of Jamnair and Burgaum; the intervening distance alone prevents their intermarriage with the Turvees, for their creed and ideas are similar. They are, however, of a discontented and quarrelsome disposition, difficult to manage, and still more ferocious than their brethren to the eastward, and, during seasons of disturbance, the most atrocious acts have been invariably ascribed to their prowess.

The common Khandesh Bheels, who are scattered in such numbers throughout the province, reject, however, all distinguishing name of clan or caste, and glory in the simple appellation of *Bheel*. Indolent, dissipated, and singularly improvident, they consider themselves the highest of their tribe; and although they condescend to receive food from the hands of those who have degraded themselves by honest labour, yet they will not intermarry with those who have thus sunk in their estimation. To barter anything but what was reaped by the hand of violence was an offence against the tribe; to cultivate or engage in mechanical craft deeply degrading; and no employment was considered to be correct which in any way interfered with the cherished burden of the long-bow, and the ponderous sheaf of arrows. Local situation in some instances, and in others the gallant bearing of a powerful Chief, has bestowed the name on the few seceders from the nation.

The *Mutwaree*, the *Burda*, and the *Dorepee* inhabit the mountainous range to the north-west, about Akranee and Dhergong, and became despised on account of their skill in basket-weaving and cultivation. The term *Khoteel* is generally applied to all the wild inhabitants of the Satpooras, who barter gums and wax for the produce of the plains; and that of *Dangchee* to all the natives of the Dang, who live below the Western Ghats. These latter are the most uncivilized of all the wild tribes: with intellect barely sufficient to understand, and totally unequal to comprehend, anything beyond the most simple communication; and with forms stunted by the hardships, the noxious climate, and the bitter poverty in which they are steeped, it cannot be a matter of surprise that, among a set of such degraded beings, the principles of right and wrong are entirely lost; the fear of consequences overwhelmed in a blind reliance on their fortune; the dread of treachery the predominant idea; and the animal instinct alone remaining in full force, to urge the supply of their daily wants.

Superstitious in the extreme, and possessing little attachment to fixed spots, their temporary villages are removed on the occurrence of any evil omen; freely addicted to intoxication, their evil propensities burst into a flaming fire when roused by the effects of ardent spirit; and, led in large bodies by numerous leaders, they were for years a scourge to all around. Ten thousand of the Gaekwar's troops, sent for the purpose of their coercion, were defeated, and driven with disgrace from their fastnesses, and it remained for their reformed brethren in Khandesh, under their European leaders, to overrun their tangled forest, to seize all their potent leaders, and to reduce the race for the first time to a state of entire and unconditional subjection.

In ordinary avocations esteeming idleness to labour, every Bheel prefers his scanty fare to a more luxurious diet gained by the sweat of his brow; and eating all sorts of flesh, that of the cow not excepted, and possessing great knowledge of roots and herbs, he is seldom in fear of actual starvation; but during the excitement of plunder and spoliation, few personal exertions are too great to be undergone, and every hardship and privation are willingly and cheerfully endured.

Many were the acts of cruelty and brutality committed on these marauding expeditions; for, deeming their own lives of small value, they felt little scruple in trifling with those of others; but despised, hunted, and separated from society, the origin of their conduct may be traced considerably to their persecution, and to the belief of their ancient tradition that they were created to live by the sword alone.

The Indian who fells the tree that he may gather the fruit, and the Bheel who plunders the village, are actuated by the same impulse of savage nature; and accustomed from infancy to a life of hardship and exposure, where everything was sternly inculcated which contributed to harden the heart and narrow the sources of sympathy, it was no startling change, when driven starving to the hills, that the master spirits should lead the multitude to evil, and that necessity should enforce the appropriation by violence of whatever came within reach.

But the Bheel is attached to his village, and to his Chief; he is a kind and affectionate parent, and great faith may be placed on his word; his simplicity is extraordinary; and, apprehended as an offender, he not only confesses his present transgression, but with the greatest coolness enumerates his previous adventures on the road, entering minutely into every circumstance, and stating, without any hesitation, the names of his associates, be they his nearest and dearest relations.

Polygamy is freely indulged, and although a plurality of wives often creates feud and jealousy in the hamlet, yet their assistance is material in conveying provisions from the plains to the fastnesses, and their seizure is generally followed by the surrender of the husband.

No bounds whatever are set to the enjoyment of ardent spirits, and marriage ceremonies derive their chief celebrity from the quantity expended

Staunch believers in every kind of witchcraft, the Bheel places implicit confidence in his prophet, who pretends at times to be inspired; and he keeps with equal zeal all feasts and holidays, Hindoo and Mahomedan; but his religious rites are performed by the Brahmin, and his most solemn oath is on the "Meet Gowile," a mixture of salt, cowdung, and jowaree.

In this parched atmosphere, where the stain remains not after the first ray of the morning sun, and where the scent of the blood-hound would be of no avail, the sagacity and perfection of vision inherent in these sons of the mountain have been rendered of good service to the State, and the footstep of the thief is successfully tracked for days over the waving grass and the hard rock, and generally to the detection of the offender.

They possess the nervous and flexible limb, and the courage and love of adventure, of a wild freebooting race; and, unused to the bonds of law, and impatient of restraint, a life passed beneath the free canopy of heaven is in perfect unison with their temper and disposition. Merry of heart, they dance and sing to the sound of their bagpipes on high feasts and holidays, and after successful exploits and forays; and, indifferent of the present, and heedless as to future fortune, they sail away with the river, careless alike of the deep slow stream or the rapid boiling current.

During the struggle between the Mahomedans and the Murathas, the excesses of the Bheels arose to a great height; yet it may be said that Khandesh was in a flourishing condition up to the year 1798, when Bajee Rao succeeded, on the death of Nana Furnavese, to his free exercise of authority as Peshwa: but the successful rebellion of Yeshwunt Rao Holkar, which shortly afterwards broke out, proved to be the commencement of the manifold miseries and misfortunes of this province, which during a period of two years was on three occasions sacked and devastated by the marauding troops; and the scourge of war was in 1803 succeeded by a most unusual and withering famine, which extended from the Satpoora Hills to the city of Hyderabad. Under this calamity, the country became for a time deserted: many cultivators fled to Berar and Guzerat; the greater portion of the Bheel population abandoned the plains, and returned not again; and now commenced the Bund-Umul, that period of utter anarchy and confusion, which so long reigned throughout this unhappy land. Organised gangs started up in every direction, and the mountain ridges were quickly studded with Huttees, from the tiny hamlet of the freebooter to the grand encampments of the powerful Naiks, who, assuming the state of petty princes, despatched their armies of a thousand men to sack and lay waste the surrounding country.

Still, a portion of the more peaceable of the race remained in the plains, until the heavy hand of the oppressor forced them likewise to make common cause with their comrades on the mountains. If unable to pay to the corrupt officer a large sum of money, the Mamlutdar could, without reference, put a Bheel to death; and any of the persecuted race caught in a disturbed part of the country were flogged and forthwith hanged, on the score of notoriety. If

order was thus restored for the time, the authorities heeded not that a hundred innocent men suffered the extreme penalty; and the Muratha system of torture being freely applied to extort information, the wretched Bheel who had been flogged and exposed naked in the sun, after having had his nose split and his ears stripped from his head, generally closed his miserable career on the heated gun, or in the embraces of the red-hot iron chair.

Totally unable, however, by open force, to restrain the violence of the marauders, fraud of the basest nature was on every occasion resorted to; and cajoled and inveigled by hollow promises of pardon and preferment, the Bheels oftentimes agreed to the proposed terms, and, flocking to some appointed place, on the strength of the pledged faith of the Government, were cruelly massacred without remorse.

From a high precipitous rock adjoining the fort of Untoor, hundreds of this guilty though unfortunate race were annually hurled to destruction over the perpendicular scarp; and the towns of Dhurumgaum, Chaleesgaum, and Kopurgaum, will long exist in the memory of the tribe, as the sites of the most fearful scenes of indiscriminate slaughter,—where large bodies, assembling under the full pardon of Government, were beset by concealed troops; where the men in hundreds were beheaded or blown from guns; where the women were mutilated and burnt in wells, and where the little children were dashed to death against the stones.

Among a nation who consider it disgraceful to forgive an injury, and who bequeath the blood feud to their heirs, such treatment was not likely to pass unatoned: a deep and implacable hatred was nourished towards its oppressors, and every opportunity of vengeance was greedily enjoyed with the most savage atrocity.

Oppressed on every side by these ferocious bands, and overrun by Pindarees and hostile armies, the province fell fast into decay: the plains became covered with jungle; whole districts were deserted; and unless formed into large caravans, and accompanied by strong military escorts, travellers ventured not to cross the country.

For a period of fourteen years this murderous war of extermination on both sides continued between the Bheels and the Native Government, although, latterly, the inhabitants of certain districts, by the voluntary payment of an annual tax for his forbearance, had obtained from the adjoining Chief some slight protection of life and property, whilst others had been in a similar manner forced to compound.

But atrocious crimes were of daily occurrence, and it was indeed difficult to satisfy the extortionate cravings of the relentless Bheel: the demands came heavy and frequent upon the impoverished villages for extra sums of black-mail. The order and the threat were invariably written on a scrap of paper, and left dangling round the neck of Hunooman, the chief idol of the village; and the bitter cup of wrath was certain to be drained to the dregs by any suffi-

ciently fool-hardy to disregard the dreaded summons, which bore as a subscription the shaft and the bended bow.*

On the occupation of the province of Khandesh by the British Government, in 1818, anarchy and lawless oppression had reached a fearful height, and murder and rapine stalked openly and unrestrainedly through the land. Fifty notorious leaders infested this once flourishing "Garden of the West," and their every command was implicitly obeyed by upwards of five thousand ruthless followers, whose sole occupation was pillage and robbery, whose delight alone consisted in the murderous foray, and whose subsistence depended entirely on the fruits of their unlawful spoil. Smarting, also, under the repeatedly broken pledges of the former Native Government, and rendered savage from the wholesale slaughter of their families and relations, the Bheels were more than usually suspicious of a new Government of foreigners, and less than ever inclined to submit to the bonds of order and restraint.

From Kookurmoonda to Boorhanpoor the whole range of the Satpoora Mountains teemed with the disaffected. The Satmulla and Ajunta Bheels, under thirty-two leaders, were in arms in numerous parties, carrying fire and sword over the southern parts of the province, and the petty Rajas of Penth and Abhoona having united with the powerful Naik Govinda, the work of desolation was urged with a bloody hand through the entire range of the Western Ghats. The roads were impassable; villages in every direction were plundered, and murders daily committed; cattle and hostages were driven off from the very centre of the province; and the excesses rose to such a height, that the Ryuts refused to receive Tukavee whilst their property was thus utterly insecure.

The first plan adopted by Colonel Briggs, on the occupation of the province of Khandesh by the British Government, was to stop the supplies of food, which were chiefly drawn from the plains, to cut off any parties of Bheels that attempted to issue for plunder, and to make vigorous attacks on the points within the hills to which the Chiefs had retired.

During the second year of British administration, many of the Chiefs, by the prompt decision and the praiseworthy efforts of the British troops, were either seized or killed in battle; but these Chiefs were in most cases succeeded by others equally powerful and ferocious with themselves, and beyond the immediate influence of the British troops, there was little protection for life and property in Khandesh. Proclamations were in vain issued that former crimes would be forgotten, and that in future those Bheels who returned to the plains should be fed at the expense of the village; the amnesty was

* Summons for blackmail.—Translation of a note sent by Mohun Naik to Boola, Patel of Keepra Keira:—

"The instant you receive this note, you must bring the Rs. 500 which are due to us: if any delay is suffered, we will put your people to death, and cut off their ears and noses, and help ourselves.

"Let this be well considered."

unheeded and rejected, and not one of the tribe repaired to take advantage of the liberal offer.

No regular police existed at this time; the Bheels who formerly had been the village watchmen were in arms against the State; and reports daily arrived of robberies, murders, and house-breakings,—upwards of one hundred complaints of this nature being made, during the course of one month, from the single district of Nundoorbar. An Irregular Corps of Turvee Bheels was at length attempted, on the principle of confirming the hereditary Naiks as the superiors of the legion; but the experiment entirely failed, the men being constantly in a state of intoxication; and their grovelling habits proving incapable of restraint by Native officers who were equally licentious with themselves, this body was ultimately disbanded, as totally useless.

Amongst the many plans which were agitated to restore peace to the province, Colonel Briggs, the Political Agent, proposed to pension every marauding Bheel in Khandesh on a monthly allowance of two rupees, together with a certain quantity of grain. Military operations were, however, finally resorted to, and parties of Sebundees and regular troops were despatched to protect the passes; but they were shortly obliged to quit, leaving two-thirds of their number victims to the malaria, and the charge of these important outlets was again handed over to the loose control of the hereditary Naiks, on double their former allowance, but with no happier effects than before.

During the four succeeding years the same successive arrangements were pursued, with equally unsuccessful results: conciliatory measures were first adopted; settlements of the most liberal nature were entered into with many; and these entirely failing, recourse was had to arms, which only for a time, and in the immediate neighbourhood of the force, had the temporary effect of apparently subduing these untameable spirits.

It would be endless to detail, in continuance, the assemblages of Bheels, their plundering gangs, and atrocious acts;* but during the struggle many of the Chiefs were killed, or suffered a merited death on the gallows; some had died in prison, and others had been transported; but, with all the expenditure of life, the country remained as distracted as ever.

Warfare of the most distressing and harassing nature for troops was carried on, without any great success, during the fair season: chains of military posts were established throughout the province, and detachments posted in locations where the sepoy and his European officer† were unavailingly sacrificed to the

* Appendix A is a synopsis of the Bheel settlement in Khandesh from the year 1818.

† The orders of Government, prohibiting all passage through the Khandesh jungles from the month of June to January, evince a most lively care for the health of their officers; but the exigencies of the service must be attended to by the local authorities, and the province has proved the grave of many a high-spirited youth. The European troops were sacrificed in hundreds before the fatal malaria was discovered to abound in every jungle; and in later days, exposure during the doomed months has been always attended with disastrous results. Of five officers who proceeded during August to the Mangrode jungles, three died within a fortnight

evil climate; and although the enemy was weak in the field, and unable to stand before the fire of disciplined troops, yet the activity of the half-naked savage evaded the utmost effort of the harnessed soldier; the inaccessible nature of the fastnesses favoured flight and concealment, and the taunting yell of the marauder generally rose high over the protecting cliff, as the baffled and wearied pursuers threaded the last deep dell on their return.

The recollection of former treachery still remained too vivid in the memory of the outlaws; the good faith of the present Government, unbacked by the presence of local agents, was mistrusted; the conciliatory system had been only in part applied, and the allowance was scorned as a gift which was claimed as a matter of right; pensions were bestowed upon the most turbulent, only to be returned with insult, and the inroads remained numerous, destructive, and terrific as before.

The question was now anxiously canvassed, what methods were to be adopted with a race who cared little for punishment, and less for the lives of their victims, and who held death in utter contempt; and well and worthily did the rulers of their destiny answer the puzzling reference.

The amelioration of the condition of mankind, and the increase of human happiness, ought to be the aim of every Government, and of every individual, according to the measure of their power; and the humane and generous orders, regarding the predatory tribes of Khandesh, which emanated from the Honorable Court of Directors, breathed the purest spirit of philanthropy.

A new era in the history of this province was however about to commence: the physical condition of the Bheels was to undergo a thorough and wholesome reformation; banishment, imprisonment, the lash, and the gibbet were to be abolished, and the gentle hand and the persuasive word of a mild and paternal Government were to lead the hitherto wild man within the pale of civilized life, and to unfold to him the blessings of peace and good order.

This is not a fitting place to comment on the conduct of the local officers who were employed to introduce these blessings, or otherwise much might be said in praise of all: but credit is especially due to Colonel Archibald Robertson, under whose auspices this new policy commenced, whose talents were equally conspicuous with the liberality of his sentiments; and to the zeal, ability, and fearless energy which on every occasion were displayed by the Agents, Captain Outram and Major Ovans, must be mainly attributed the much desired result which followed the conciliatory line of policy so ably carried out by those officers.

of their return; and few descend to the Dang at any season of the year without suffering from fever. During a short campaign of three months, of five officers, one died and three left India on sick certificate; and of three hundred regulars who were employed, one hundred and twenty marched back to Malligaum.

PART II.

THE CONCILIATORY POLICY, WITH ITS RESULT.

The province of Khandesh, under the new system, was divided into three Agencies, which were apportioned to as many officers, who were expected to reside within the limits of their respective districts.

Nundoorbar, Sooltanpoor, and Pimpulnair, with all the independent and tributary Chieftains, including those of the Dang, formed the North-western Agency.

Jamnair, Burgaum, and Chaleesgaum, comprehending the districts below and adjoining the Ajunta and Satmulla range, fell to the share of the Southern; and the North-eastern Agency extended along the Satpoora range, including the districts of Chopra, Yawul, and Sowda, to which were afterwards added the centre divisions of Erundole, Amulnair, and Nusserabad. To the officers in charge of the last mentioned Agency the duty was likewise entrusted of raising a Bheel Corps, under active Native and non-commissioned officers from the line, and the following instructions which were issued may be justly considered as the ground-work of the reformation.

The Agents were to preserve the peace of the country, to ameliorate the condition of the Bheels, and to retain a watchful superintendence over the range committed to their charge; and, while endeavouring to inspire the wild men with confidence in the Government, to encourage their attention towards industrious pursuits; to redress all complaints, and to be careful that those on whom pensions had been conferred were duly paid. It was also the duty of the Agents to act as arbitrators when the parties mutually agreed, to apprehend offenders, and to commit for trial, or otherwise to inflict such punishment as might be customary among the tribe; and to superintend all such military operations as might be considered necessary to reduce gangs who still continued to commit depredations.

The Bheels were to be registered, and called upon to render an account of the manner in which they obtained their livelihood; waste lands were to be allotted to all who were willing to form themselves, under certain restrictions, into colonies; they were to be restricted from congregating in masses, prevented from quitting, without intimation, their places of abode, and strictly checked from assembling in Huttees among the hills on any pretence whatever.

Security was to be taken from those against whom strong suspicion was entertained; rewards of rent-free land, of animals, and implements of husbandry, were sanctioned for meritorious conduct in aiding the police, or for remarkable industry in cultivation; and the Patels of villages were also to be encouraged, by the presentation of honorary dresses, to assist in promoting the

desired object, by forwarding to the Agents correct returns of all the Bheels within their range, of the mode by which they subsisted, and of the adequacy or otherwise of the provision allotted by the State for their maintenance. A general superintendence of the Bheels and the petty Chiefs was required, and the dues payable to the former in villages were to be strictly enforced. Punchayets were in some instances allowed to inflict punishment under authority of the Agent, but imprisonment was ordered to be avoided, as attended with little inconvenience to the delinquent, but with great misery to those who depended upon him for support; besides the Bheel, considering it no disgrace whatever, returned to his home from a residence in the jail, in no ways subdued in disposition, and considerably deteriorated in morals.

The head quarters of the Bheel Corps were ordered to be stationed at Dhurumgaum. The pay of the men was fixed at Rs. 5 a month, with an additional rupee as batta when on outpost duty; clothing was to be furnished by Government; and, armed with fusils, the levy was to be drilled as light infantry.

At first much duty was not to be expected, but the men were to be employed in such a manner as would teach them obedience to orders,—the very essence of future duty, and the only antidote to their loose and irregular habits.

Attention was also to be paid to their personal appearance, whereby more favourable impressions would be excited in respect to themselves; and for the same reason, punishments of a personal nature were to be avoided, and dismissal from the corps for serious offences might be made with advantage, previous to the offender being handed over to the civil power.

The main features, therefore, in this theory of reformation, were the awarding strict justice to an oppressed race, the overthrow of the patriarchal authority of the Naiks, and the substitution in their stead of a European Chief, who should be equally respected and obeyed, and whose commands and precepts would prove of a very different nature to those which had heretofore emanated among the hills: the conciliatory character and talent of the officers to be employed, the judicious selection for the new military body of the wild unruly spirits, who disdained the toil of honest labour, and the settlement among colonies of the more staid among the society, the provision of a comfortable maintenance for every one, the re-establishment of the ancient village Bheel police, and above all, the mild and liberal, though firm spirit of the existing administration, which encouraged with generous assistance the well disposed, exercised a wholesome control over the evil-doers, and whose measures under the new arrangement were equally certain of being promulgated and enforced by unbiassed servants.

Military operations were now reduced to the more feasible scale of harassing the armed bands among the hills, and of allowing them little rest in any one locality; and a general amnesty was offered to the tribe, with the exception of the most heinous offenders, for whose apprehension large rewards were proclaimed. Fatigued and worn out by the hardships of their miserable situa-

tion, and finding the spoil of the low country becoming daily more fruitless and inaccessible, after a lengthy negotiation, a few of the principal Naiks were with difficulty induced to take advantage of the humane offers of Government, whilst others of the desperadoes were betrayed among their immediate places of refuge.

A free pardon was granted for all past crimes to those who surrendered at discretion, waste lands were allotted rent-free for a term of twenty years, wherever the Naiks and their followers proposed to settle, and an ample grant of money for clothes and subsistence, together with animals and implements of cultivation, were allowed by Government during the period when the rude husbandman was under proper instruction to make the earth yield up her treasures for his own support.

This grant was, however, to be received, not as a free gift, but as an advance, to be hereafter recovered, should circumstances permit; and as the money was judiciously expended under the immediate superintendence of the Agent, and never entrusted to the improvident squandering of the Bheel, the advantages were sufficiently apparent, and a most powerful check was thus placed upon the present, and a strong hold was obtained over future indolence and licentiousness. The greatest difficulties were, however, experienced in settling to peaceable pursuits these wild intractable characters, in breaking through their prejudices against labour, and in eradicating their propensities to plunder and debauchery. The rude and half savage race, moreover, viewed with suspicion the system of liberality and forbearance observed by the British Government, and naturally suspected the recurrence of former treachery; but strenuous endeavours successfully convinced them of the utter groundlessness of their fears, and the folly of their former conduct, and, by working on the better feelings of the race, the knowledge began to gain ground that the Government not only possessed the means of restraining their future depredations, but also entertained an ardent wish to promote their benefit and welfare.

The success of these exertions shortly became manifest, and numbers of the tribe having availed themselves of the proffered terms, settled quietly in different locations; and, supplied by the Agent with food and implements of husbandry, they gradually abandoned their scruples in regard to labour, while each succeeding day increased their confidence in the promises of Government; and as the more fiery and turbulent were periodically drafted to the new corps, the little colonies were allowed to remain in peace and quietude, unagitated by the unruly designer, whose word had formerly stirred up the dullest spirits to ferocious deeds.

The novel and arduous undertaking of raising a corps from these predatory tribes had been already commenced; and Captain Outram, who was at the time serving with the military detachments acting against the Bheels, seized every opportunity in his power to hold intercourse with this rude and savage people. Living unattended for weeks together amongst their Huttees, by the fearless and manly confidence which he evinced in their honour and good

faith, by so unhesitatingly entrusting his life to their keeping, he succeeded in inspiring them with a conviction that the British Government was sincere in its professions of having their interests and welfare deeply at heart.

Indulging the wild men with feasts and entertainments, and delighting all by his matchless urbanity, Captain Outram at length contrived to draw over to the cause nine recruits, one of whom was a most notorious plunderer, and had a short time before successfully robbed the officer commanding the detachment which had been sent against him. This infant corps soon became strongly attached to the person of their new Chief, and entirely devoted to his wishes; their good will had been won by his kind and conciliatory manners, while their admiration and respect had been thoroughly roused and excited by his prowess and valour in the chase.

By means of these nine recruits Captain Outram was enabled to attract others to his standard, and on the conclusion of the monsoon he left the head quarters of Dhurumgaum at the head of sixty men, armed with bows and arrows, and, marching round the province, successfully recruited in every district. A draft of forty regulars from the line was received to act as drill masters and officers; but the Bheels appearing suspicious of this arrangement, their muskets and belts were for the time laid aside, and confidence was only regained by the assurance that all were to be alike in appearance and duties, and that when properly sensible of the utility of the measure they should be all alike armed in the European manner.

The reception of these wild recruits by the 23rd Regiment Bombay Native Infantry in the camp of Malligaum was greatly conducive to the good cause: men of the highest caste behaved in a manner most flattering to the feelings of the mountaineers, visiting them, and presenting them with betelnut, to the no small amazement of the guests, and to the gratification of Government, who complimented the regiment on their conduct.

While, however, the work progressed thus favourably, it was at the same time evident that extreme difficulties had yet to be encountered: inveterate habits were not to be changed in a day; and in addition to the natural repugnance to restraint and subjection to law, strange rumours and reports were afloat throughout the province, regarding the intention of Government in thus forming the Bheels into a corps. They were told at one time, by the evil disposed, that the object was to link them in a line like galley slaves, and then to extirpate the race; that their blood was in high demand as medicine in the country of their foreign masters, and that assemblage in the corps would be speedily followed by massacre, as of yore. Numbers, in consequence of these idle and mischievous rumours, after having with the utmost exertions been induced to enter the service, absconded in terror; and confidence was alone ultimately regained when permanent dwellings were commenced at the head quarters, and when lapse of time evinced the groundless nature of their fears.

Villages were still occasionally plundered, and gangs remained in arms

among the hills: but suspicion had been thoroughly instilled among the heads and leaders of the tribe; the summons for blackmail was unheeded by the villagers; and the information of private haunts and fastnesses, which was in the possession of the local authorities, enabled the military forces to act among the hills with some chance of success.

The system of reformation continued with unabated vigour in the colonies, and at the close of the year 1826 upwards of three hundred ploughs had been established. Time, patience, and considerable persuasion, were of course necessary to induce the Bheels to undertake agricultural pursuits, and to place the colonies on a regular footing; but the wild material was fast accumulating, and the hereditary watchmen were gradually returning from the hills to their villages.

Increased to three hundred men, the corps was now drilling at head quarters, and in the commencement of the second season of their service, the first opportunity was afforded to the reformed Bheels of Khandesh of shedding their blood for their new masters: they freely risked their lives, and, although opposed by their own caste and relations, fought boldly for the Government. The village of Boorwaree had been attacked and plundered, and emissaries from the gang were passing rapidly among the hills to collect the disaffected, when a small detachment of the Bheel Corps arrived at sunset on the spot. Dashing immediately into the hills, Captain Outram arrived, after a tedious night's march, on the eminence where the gang had retired, when he was immediately assailed by showers of arrows and stones. A Jemedar and many of the recruits were wounded, but the men fought on steadily, and the enemy was eventually driven from the commanding position it had occupied.

Fatigued, however, with the night march, and the severe exertion of following the gang from hill to hill, a retreat was feigned by Captain Outram's gallant little band, and the enemy being by this ruse deluded with the idea of victory, and drawn down upon the open plain, were charged and dispersed at the point of the bayonet, the plunder of the village was recovered, arms and other property secured, the marauding Chief and many of his followers killed in the action, and the gang entirely dispersed.

After this demonstration, the corps rapidly increased, and during the rains of 1827 six hundred rank and file were kept steadily at drill; the huts and pendalls were completed at Dhurumgaum; the life of comparative ease and comfort was highly relished, and, the draft from the regulars consisting only of men of high caste and character, the association inspired the Bheels with a great degree of respect for themselves.

The feelings as well as the persons of the tribe were enlisted into the service: their evil passions were at first tolerated, to control and lead them to the desired end; confidence was at length obtained in their suspicious minds, and admiration of their officers ensured, by a display of superiority in those very qualities they most prided in themselves. Their sympathies and feelings were also studied and cultivated, their improvement in heart and spirit closely looked after, and that stability of connection between the Chief and his

followers, which in earlier times was little more than a chain of slavery, and permanance of evil, in its better modification, became the bond of fellow-feeling and good order.

At the close of the monsoon of 1827, this newly raised corps was reviewed by the Brigadier of the district, whose high commendation, after four days' exercise, for dress, and steady performance of intricate manœuvres, appeared in the general orders of the army. It indeed seemed extraordinary to every one, that the character of this wild and savage race could have been so readily tamed, and that their manners and lives could in so short a space of time have been subjected to so decided a reform. Proceeding thus rapidly from the enlistment and marching about the country, which might be considered as the first shadow of a drill, a result was accomplished through prudence, perseverance, and courage, which many might have wished for, but very few anticipated.

Immediately after the review, the greater part of the corps was marched off in detachments, to relieve, as far as their numerical strength would admit, the unhealthy outposts on the frontiers of the province, and the troops of the line were withdrawn into camp.

By continual residence among the colonies, by unwearied attention to their wants, wishes, and peculiarities, and by kind and liberal treatment, the affections of the race were entirely gained, and the word of the Agent was received as law. Respecting him as a protector and benefactor, as well as a just arbitrator and judge, every real or imaginary wrong was submitted to his decision: to him the Bheel turned for advice and assistance whenever advice and assistance could be of any use; greater obedience was rendered than had been ever paid to the hereditary Naik, and duties which were not faithfully and earnestly discharged, if not voluntarily performed, were rigidly enforced.

To obviate all future annoyance and inconvenience, and to settle the anxiety of the Bheels with regard to the terms of the amnesty, a written Kowl, to the effect quoted in the margin, was presented to each individual, which served as a pass of security when absent from his village, and which was expected to be kept always near his person. In this document it was freely written and explained, that although pardon was granted for all past offences, yet any future infringement of the peace would involve a forfeiture of the protection, and that

Translation of a Kowl granted to Bheel, of the Village of Purguna

You have lived in the hills, and plundered the roads and country of the Sirkar, and committed thefts and various crimes: now you are present, and have petitioned the Sirkar that if pardoned you will not again offend, and that if Tukavee be given to you, you will cultivate and thus earn a subsistence. On this, your prayer has been considered, and the Sirkar has shown favour to you, and has this once pardoned your past crimes, and has given you for your support Tukavee, and land to cultivate; and this Kowl is written and presented to you that you may remain in your village, and cultivate, and thus gain your livelihood. After this, if you again commit any offence, your former crimes will not be considered as forgiven, but you will have to answer for both them and the new crime.

(Signature of Bheel Agent.)

the penalty for the past as well as for present misdeeds would be exacted from the offender.

But a happy change was fast progressing in the habits and ideas of the race: few who took the Kowl ever violated their engagements; and when called upon to apprehend marauders, or to trace the perpetrators of crime, the most ready and valuable assistance was ever rendered to the police; and the bulk of the people being thus favourably inclined to order, the refractory Naiks were forced into submission, and an arrangement for the regular payment of a certain sum of money was at length satisfactorily effected, in lieu of their Huks, which had been heretofore received in kind from every village of the district.

The village police now alone remained to be extricated from the mass of disorder into which every measure regarding the Bheel system had been formerly plunged, so as to allow every chance to the healthy operation of the new reform. When wielded in the hands of a powerful Government, the system of Bheel police had been found to perform the most efficient duty; but when the curb of restraint was removed, the most glaring abuses and flagrant crimes were speedily induced. Under the name and shelter of the Jagla watchman, the Bheel plunderer remained unmolested within the precincts of the village, and few of the Native functionaries could resist the easy acquisition of property by a share of the spoil, which was so readily awarded for the protection.

A strict inquiry was therefore absolutely necessary: when the amount of Huks in each separate village, together with the number of persons required for the performance of its duties, were correctly ascertained, the requisite quota was placed in charge, the surplus drafted to the colonies, and the regular payment of these dues, which, when neglected, was attended with such evil, was strictly enforced by personal superintendence.

The amount of rent-free land was also fairly fixed, according to the size and revenue of the village; and for a share of the produce, this land being cultivated by the Patel, a bond of good feeling was thus mutually established between the parties: the Bheel was left at liberty to attend to the numerous and important avocations of his office, for the due performance of which every hour was necessary, and the duties of the Patel and the Jagla being intimately connected, if the former functionary retained a proper interest in the security of the inhabitants, and a vigilant watch over the conduct of the Jagla, their combined knowledge and assistance could, in all cases of crime, be rendered of the most material service.

By this settlement, a sure remedy was provided for the former heavy evils, by insuring an honest subsistence to all the Jaglas who were found in the village, and who, instead of being the scourges of the country, were now converted into active and useful members of police, whilst those who took to the plough gradually, like their brethren in the colonies, became quiet and obedient cultivators.

After a lapse of three years, the remnant of the predatory Bheels in the

Satmulla and Ajunta range, who had been so long carrying on depredations on the eastern frontier, was brought to terms, and the system was fairly established in the southern parts of the province.

A register of all the Bheels had been framed, a Kowl was in the possession of every individual, the Huks of Naiks and Jaglas had been inquired into and adjusted, the Native functionaries were required to see the dues properly paid, and the Bheels ventured not to leave their villages without permission from the Patel.

A Daroga Karkoon was employed in each Talooka, constantly moving from village to village, to see that orders were attended to, and that the Bheels were present and busy with their ploughs; a Daroga Sebundee was stationed in each colony, to superintend and overlook its proceedings; and the Agent continually moved through his districts, to ensure, by his personal inspection, the effect of his orders.

The result of this reticulated settlement was shortly manifested, and these districts, formerly the scene of every outrage, where neither life nor property was secure, now enjoyed tranquillity; the roads, formerly hazardous for the armed party, were traversed at all hours by single passengers; the formidable list of crimes had dwindled down to the report of a few petty thefts; and the Bheels, from outcasts, had become members of a society daily rising in respectability and appearance, and becoming useful and obedient servants of the State.

It was a matter of astonishment to behold the rapid change produced by the liberal system of Government, in a race of miserable beings, who, without a rag to cover their backs, and hardly a morsel of food to put into their mouths, had so shortly before sued for life and food from the foreigner, and were now fat and sleek, and decently clad, living in their own huts, surrounded by swarms of healthy children, ploughing their own lands, and many in the honest possession of flocks and herds.

The principles upon which the Bheel Corps was raised were equally simple and unquestionable,—to secure the enlistment of Chiefs, their relations, or members of their clans, to enforce the progressive advancement of all, through the intermediate grades of private and non-commissioned officer, to regulate the reins of discipline with a delicate and judicious hand, and to observe a just and proper distribution of punishment and reward.

On these sure principles the corps soon contained within itself such a number of influential persons, connected or intimately acquainted with every Chief or tribe of importance in Khandesh, that provided a Bheel culprit remained in the province, his name and village only being sent to the Commandant of the corps, apprehension followed nearly to a certainty.

Five years had hardly elapsed from the day when the first wild recruit was enrolled in the service, and when the sword of the mountain cateran was first exchanged for the ploughshare; but during that period the spirit of affairs had undergone a happy change, and the country enjoyed repose.

For years Khandesh had been subjected to utter misery and relentless spoliation, from the organised gang and the tyrannical Bheel Chief; but the generosity of Government, and the anxiety and exertion of its Agents, were now amply repaid in the complete success of a system which had thus restored peace and quiet.

To show the confidence that had been restored throughout the country, the recital of the following fact may not be considered unworthy of notice. In a village near the Satpoora range a petty theft had been committed by a few boys, who carried off the cooking utensils from two houses: the Patel, and other inhabitants who suffered, were asked how it happened that such articles were taken from their houses without awakening them; and the gratifying answer was received, "that since the Government settlement had been made, no one in the village ever thought of fastening up their houses at night, considering themselves in perfect security."

The same character existed, the evil propensities could not be as yet totally eradicated; but the wise measures in force had corrected the one and checked the other: gang robberies had ceased for a period of twelve months, and there existed not in the province one single leader of marauders.

The conduct of the corps was deserving of the warmest praise, and its services were actively and continually employed in opposing on outpost a front for the purpose of checking foreign aggression, or in the pursuit of foreign marauders. When called upon, the men had invariably shown a willingness and readiness to act against friend and relation, and were ever on the alert to obey the commands of their officers; whilst the gradual introduction of regular discipline had been applied to the root of the evil, and their wild and lawless habits had been completely corrected.

The vice of intoxication had been thoroughly overcome; not even the most trifling complaint against any one member of the corps had been made to the authorities; and Government had thus obtained the services and labour of a body of men, which had so long troubled the repose of the former as well as the present administration. To such lengths, indeed, were the excesses carried, that the Poona Government looked alone to the extermination of the race for repose; whereas the present, by its reformation, had added a strength to the executive power which few could have anticipated.

During the attainment of such a desirable result, Government was subjected to a considerable outlay of money, and suffered loss by the non-repayment of advances* made to the Bheels, which have lapsed from death or other accident; but the reformation of the tribe from their savage and turbulent habits has proved a blessing and a benefit to the country, for which no pecuniary sacrifice could be too great.

* The total amount, in round numbers, advanced by Government to establish the colonies, was Rs. 85,000. Of this sum Rs. 44,000 have been recovered. Rs. 17,000 are still outstanding, of which one-half may be recovered; and thus the total deficit amounts to Rs. 32,500.

The future prospects held out by the effect of this enlightened and generous policy are also not less cheering: principles are now recognised, and agencies brought into play, which inevitably progress to future stability; the increased ease of circumstance and comfort lead to a prolongation of human life, and the effect of liberal laws will gradually tend to melt the separate drop into the general mass.

At present the land of Bheel location* is cultivated as a free gift from Government; hereafter, as education raises this race of men from the low and barbarous rank it held among our Native subjects, an addition may accrue to the revenue, and an accession of sturdy cultivators, from the huts of this prolific tribe, to fill up those blanks caused by the sweeping scourges which too often desolate the province. But these are secondary objects, when compared to the one so wonderfully and successfully gained, which has secured to the country a state of quiet and repose unknown to it for nearly half a century.

The Bheel now feels a relish for that industry which renders subsistence secure, and life peaceful and comfortable: he unites with the Ryut in the cultivation of those fields which he once ravaged and laid waste, and protects the village, the traveller, and the property of Government, which were formerly the objects of his spoliation; the extensive wilds, which heretofore afforded him cover during his bloody expeditions, are now smiling with fruitful crops; and population, industry, and opulence are progressing throughout the land.

The reform has been steadily pursued, with equal success, to the present† day. Schools have been introduced for the benefit of the rising generation, and the present youth, inured to labour, and sobered by instruction, have lost the recollection of the state of olden times, when, from their insulated position, the tribe alone retorted hatred and vengeance upon their oppressors. The requisite number of ploughs have been long since established for the maintenance of the numerous colonies which are scattered over the southern districts; and although the strain be somewhat too tight for the bow, and the duties exacted be too numerous for the strength of the Bheel Corps,—such as indeed could not be with justice performed by almost two regiments of the line,—still there exist few instances of grumbling or want of fidelity.

The men have been always successfully employed, and have proved equally staunch and faithful on the unhealthy outpost and among the intricate defiles of the mountain range,—daring alike the insidious fever and the arms of the enemy, they have ever proved superior to the difficulty; the fastnesses have been penetrated and cleared on every side of the province; internal and external disturbance have been through their exertions entirely quelled; and, led by their officers, they have acted with success against every marauding tribe in the

* Appendix D shows the amount &c. of land under cultivation in the Southern Agency.

† The close of the year 1843.

vicinity of Khandesh, and have been employed with equal credit to themselves against their turbulent brethren in Guzerat. The district treasuries are now under their charge, the chief police rests in their hands, their influence and power is supreme over every family of Khandesh Bheels, whose relations and connexions form its component members; and thus, by a wild levy of only eight hundred men, the internal duties of a province one-third the size of England have been well and faithfully performed.

As an item of economy, the reduction of an entire local corps, a portion of the auxiliary horse, and a large body of peons, whose services were in consequence no longer required, together with the abolition of two* heavily paid appointments, the duties of which have been added to those of its Commandant, have more than covered the expense of the corps. One regiment of the line has also been entirely withdrawn from the province, while the health of the remaining troops is carefully preserved.†

The hitherto untameable Bheel banditti cannot now, as formerly, unite in general insurrection, without punishment; few individuals who offend against the laws can elude the arm of justice; and by thus wisely employing a small portion of the community, a numerous race is kept in subjection, and the tranquillity of this immense province is satisfactorily obtained, which no military force nor expenditure of treasure could have otherwise effected; the physical condition of the people has improved, from the cessation of trouble and the suppression of feudal enormity, and the blessings of thousands of happy and reformed beings daily rise as a grateful offering to a munificent Government, who have thus shed so bright an influence over their destiny.

* Bheel Agent of the NW. ..... Rs. 1,200
Commandant of the Auxiliary Horse..... 1,000

† Whilst in charge of the unhealthy posts of Khandesh, now occupied by the Bheel Corps, at the close of the usual tour of three years, every regiment of the line, without taking into account casualties, was forced to discharge to their homes upwards of a hundred men as unfit for further service, whilst a like number, entirely disabled, swelled the list of Government pensioners.

CONTINUATION OF THE FOREGOING MEMOIR, TO THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1855,

BY CAPTAIN J. ROSE.

The former part of this Sketch contains a brief but tolerably full account of the barbarous condition in which the Bheel Tribes were found when Khandesh came into the hands of the British Government; of the measures adopted by this Government to reclaim them from the lawless courses into which they had been driven by ruthless oppressors during the Mahomedan and Hindoo sways; as well as of the wonderful success with which these philanthropic and liberal measures had been rewarded up to the year 1843.

From the beginning of A. D. 1843 to the end of 1855, the same liberal and successful policy has been steadily pursued towards the Bheels, each succeeding year affording fresh tokens of growing improvement in their habits and inclinations; so that now,—thirty years after we first took them by the hand in 1825,—instead of living chiefly on plunder, as we found them doing, it is but seldom that any of them are guilty even of petty grain robbery; and, in short, they have become one of the best behaved and most useful classes in the province.

The Bheel Corps, upwards of a thousand strong, affords a favourite field for the services and maintenance of such as belong to it; and to the agency of this local corps, which is scattered over the province in numerous detachments on police duties, and as guards over the different district treasuries (vide Appendix E), is mainly to be attributed the state of public good order which is now predominant throughout Khandesh.

Besides the public security afforded by the Bheel Corps, every village in the province is now supplied with its hereditary Jagla or watchman.

These village guardians, who were robbers once, have thus, like the sepoys of the Bheel Corps, become preservers instead of disturbers of good order.

Remunerated partly by Government, and partly by the villagers, it is the concern of these village watchmen to protect the interests of both Government and the villagers, as they can be officially fined for neglect of duty; and a villager whose property they have failed to protect, or in the recovery of which they are unsuccessful, has it in his power to withhold for a time his share of the Jagla's emoluments.

These are unfortunately insignificant and insufficient at best, but by and bye they are to be increased, as Government has issued orders with the view of effecting so desirable an object as that of ensuring the watchmen of villages a sufficient living.

Those of the tribe who are neither in the employ of Government, nor village

servants, procure a livelihood for themselves and their families by cultivating the soil; cutting and selling grass, firewood, and timber; gathering and selling jungle fruits, roots, herbs, gums, honey, &c.; and, during the harvest season, by watching Ryuts' grain-fields, reaping crops, &c.; while some of them take permanent service with Ryuts as ploughmen, and others spend part of their time in killing wild animals for the sake of the reward given for the skins by Government,—a pursuit which, while it affords a subsistence to such as follow it, benefits Government and the Ryuts, by preventing beasts of prey from overrunning the country.

It cannot be said that a great many Bheels have as yet become successful and prosperous farmers; but then it is necessary to bear in mind that, to enable a man to succeed as a farmer, he requires more than a mere rent-free lease of land, a money loan sufficient to procure a pair of bullocks, a few farming implements, and a little seed, which is all that Government could afford to give to such needy or unsteady Bheels as it was advisable to put at the plough.

To cultivate the soil successfully, a person must have some means of his own, including a sufficient number of cattle to supply manure for his fields, without which they will not long yield a remunerating crop.

His crops, when nearly ripe, must be watched by people of his own household, or by others hired for the purpose. If he fall sick, he requires to have friends who will gratuitously carry on his business, or, if they are wanting, paid labourers must be hired.

In all these respects, and many others, the Bheels, notwithstanding their anxiety to succeed in their efforts, and to give satisfaction to their benefactors, have laboured under disadvantages.

Besides having no previous experience of the agricultural art, the constant care and labour required to make a farmer's occupation profitable was hardly congenial with their past irregular habits.

The jungle lands granted to them rent-free, for a specified term, became unproductive for want of manure, after yielding a few crops, which made it necessary for them not unfrequently to go through the labour of clearing away and cultivating a fresh piece of jungle.

It was difficult for them even to guard their crops, when ripening, against the inroads of animals, winged, quadruped, and biped; as each member of a Bheel household, down to the child of five years old, has every day to assist in supporting the family by some sort of labour immediately convertible into money, wherewith to procure the every-day necessaries of life, so that they found their wants for the moment better supplied by leaving their own fields to guard those of Ryuts for hire.

The general consequence of these opposing circumstances is, that a Bheel's crop is seldom a very good one; and yet, in some parts of the province, Bheels are already to be found who are able to raise abundant harvests, who can hardly be distinguished, in habits or appearance, from the ordinary cultivating class, and who have no privileges above their fellow-cultivators of other castes.

Thus, during the course of one generation,—within the space of little more than thirty years,—has an almost thorough reform been effected in a people whom we found in a state to which the appellative of savage is perhaps the most appropriate.

By the time the rising generation has reached maturity, the work of reformation among them will probably be found permanently complete.

Before proceeding to notice the means which have been used by Government to produce such remarkably favourable results, it may be well to take a cursory view of the characteristics which mark the Bheels, or "Bhils," as they are orthographically designated.

There are no less than fourteen tribes or clans, in Khandesh, who go under the name of Bheel. These are the Turvee, Nahal, Nirdhi, Khoteel, Mutwaree, Burda, Dorepee, Dangchee, Mowchee, Parvee, Wulvee, Wusawa, Wurala, and Powera.

Of these, the first eight have been noticed in the former part of this Sketch; the other six inhabit the Western Districts of Sooltanpoor and Nundoorbar,—the most jungly, unhealthy, and thinly populated part of the province; and beyond that, they are to be found in the Rajpeepla territories bordering Guzerat, and in a portion of the Surat Zilla.

It is not easy to discover any affinity between them (the last six) and the tribes in the other parts of the province, sufficient to bring them under the common head of Bheel; but, as Sir John Malcolm wrote of them, "there are so many different tribes, that it has been conjectured by some that the general name of Bheel, or Bhil, only denotes a confederacy of mixed and degraded races of Hindoos, associated by political events and local circumstances; but there is every reason to believe that the original race of Bheels may claim a high antiquity, and that they were once masters of many of the fertile plains of India, instead of being confined (as they were in Sir John's time) to rugged mountains and almost impenetrable jungles."

That they were the primeval people of the land, and not settlers, seems hardly to admit of dispute: under a different nomenclature, they are found in the Rajmahal Hills of Bengal; for a gentleman now in Khandesh, who long resided among the "Santhals," who have of late made themselves conspicuous, finds the Bheels in appearance and manners to resemble them exactly.

It is known that "Caledonii," "Picti," "Albani," and "Scoti" were nearly synonymous appellations; and as these ancient Britons had to fall back before their invaders until they finally rested in the mountainous regions of Scotland, Ireland, and Wales, so it is very likely the aboriginal Bheels were forced back by successive conquerors into their primitive mountain wilds.

The true race of Bheel is easily distinguished by the dark colour, diminutive size, prominent cheek bones, large nostrils, activity, powers of enduring fatigue, and rare qualifications for the chase, of those who belong to it. The inferiority in their stature is probably caused by hard and scanty fare; for among those in tolerably comfortable circumstances it is not so observable, and the

peculiarity disappears altogether in youths brought up in the Bheel Corps, from their enjoying better feeding and greater comfort.

All the clans above mentioned do not resemble each other, nor is their common origin proved, or even strongly indicated, by the test of similarity of language, religion, manners, and customs.

Some speak a language incomprehensible to the rest. While one tribe is Musulman, others are Hindoos, and not a few of them countenance both religions, rigidly observing the Mohurum and its orgies, but no less particular in performing their pilgrimages to the Hindoo shrines at Jeejooree, Pundhurpoor, &c.

Some worship their ancestors, or Chiefs of note, and others pay reverence to the tiger, which it is the pastime and profit of others among them to shoot.

Intermarriage between some of the clans is interdicted; and while in one tribe polygamy is allowed, in another monogamy is the rule.

Most Bheels (excepting of course those who worship the tiger deity) delight in field-sports; and the enthusiastic zeal with which they lend their aid to the European sportsman is as useful as it is truly refreshing to witness.

They display affectionate esteem for gentlemen who have dwelt long among them, and whose character meets their approbation; and they still venerate the name of Outram.

They are kind and affectionate parents, and great faith may be placed on their word.

When Missionaries come in contact with them, there is every prospect of their finding them a people willing to hear and to believe their message of truth and love.

Considerable poetic feeling is not wanting among them; for some years ago, when the Western Bheel Agent was one morning riding through that beautiful piece of jungle over which the Sindwa Ghat passes, in company with the Chief of the Bheels of that part of Khandesh, his companion drew the officer's attention to the lovely scenery, by suddenly and rapturously exclaiming that that was "the garden of the Bheel hills and dales, abounding with untended foliage, blossoms and fruits of all colours and varieties, such as could not be produced in the tame *maidan* (plains)"; and to show that they are not totally devoid of political acumen, the following fact, which happened many years ago, may be adduced:—

One of the petty Bheel Rajas of the Dang having molested his neighbours to such an extent that it became necessary to send a small force to coerce him, he, on its arrival, at once came in, and the excuse he made for the bad conduct he had displayed, and the trouble he had given, was that he had some grievances of his own, which he wished to be redressed by British authority, and that the only way in which he could get Europeans to visit his proverbially pestilential country was to behave as he had done. Since that time the lease of the Dang timber forests by Government has brought the Rajas into closer relationship with us, and an annual meeting is held on the border of the

Dang, where they all assemble for conference with the Collector, his Political Assistant, and the Conservator of Forests or his Deputy, who all attend the meeting.

The Bheel race, which is admitted to be of very ancient origin, and to which many traditions and legends are attached, and which for so many ages tenaciously preserved inviolate its primitive unruly manners and usages, has already yielded to the powerful advance of modern civilization, which has been most liberally and perseveringly thrown in its way by Government, who granted, through the Bheel Agents, to such as applied for or would receive it, land free from the payment of revenue, and advances of money (recoverable by small instalments), for the purchase of cattle and other farming necessaries.

Some, who would have preferred a less laborious occupation, were given ploughs and rent-free land, with the double object of giving them a taste for industry, and keeping them from mischievous pursuits.

The Bheel Agents, with infinite labour, ascertained the nature and value of the various dues and imposts levied by the Bheel Naiks from the country-people in their neighbourhood. These were abolished, and an equivalent for them in money was liberally authorised to be paid monthly to the Naiks from the Government treasury.

This step had a great effect in quieting the state of the country. The Bheels brought all their grievances and little feuds to be inquired into and adjudicated by the Bheel Agents, a part of their duty which, carefully and readily performed, had no small effect in winning the confidence, and changing the habits of the tribe.

The Bheel Agents and their subordinate Karkoons and peons kept a vigilant eye on the proceedings of the Bheels in their ranges, affording them help and advice, giving them warning, or awarding them punishment, as their circumstances required.

Schools were established for the education and training of Bheel children at four different parts of the province,—Kunhur, Burgaum, Dhurumgaum, and Kookurmoonda.

The instruction afforded in these schools is not of course of a high order, but it answers the purpose for which they were founded—that of bringing up the boys attending them to quiet and steady habits, and of grounding them in reading and writing the Murathee language, and in the simple arithmetical rules.

Twelve boys, so trained, are now performing the duties of orderlies of the twelve companies composing the Bheel Corps,—that is, they keep the pay accounts, arms and ammunition returns, and all different rolls and papers pertaining to a company of sepoys; and they not only perform this rather responsible duty, which requires considerable method and care, but they do it well.

APPENDIX A.

SYNOPSIS OF THE BHEEL SETTLEMENT IN KHANDESH, AND OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS CONNECTED WITH THE BHEEL POPULATION OF THAT PROVINCE, FROM THE YEAR 1818 TO THE CLOSE OF THE YEAR 1855.

1818.

The first settlement was during this year attempted by Colonel Briggs, the Political Agent in Khandesh.

Detachments marched to the Satpoora Hills against Gunga Naik and Ramjee.

The following Naiks and feudal superiors came in, receiving pensions from Government, and assuming the responsibility of the peace of their neighbourhood:—

Goomania, Rs. 2,000 per annum, in addition to his Huks.
The Aranudee Naiks collectively, Rs. 3,000.
Teghy Khan, Rs. 1,200, and the village of Kanapoor.
Jewa Wusawa, Rs. 3,000, with ten horse and forty foot.
The Boodawul Rana, Rs. 1,000.
Dewjee Naik, Rs. 6½ per mensem, and the village of Chiklee.
Ramjee and Oochit, Rs. 500.
Rylia and Khundoo, each Rs. 200.
Goomania, though accepting the terms, never personally visited the Political Agent.

Gunga Naik of Chopra, having attacked a detachment of regulars, was killed in the fight.

An unsuccessful attempt made to employ the Turvee Bheels as a police corps.

Detachments moved against Kania Turvee.

Dusrut sacks and destroys a village.

Mulharjee Deshmook attacks Soorungana.

The Aranudee Naiks return their pensions, and the money they have received, declaring they will collect for themselves.

The Thalnair Purguna plundered by the Hill Bheels.

Kania's Huttee burnt by Major McBean.

A village in the very central district of Khandesh plundered and burnt.

Ramjee, Oochit, and Soobhania, ravaging Nundoorbar and Sooltanpoor, Colonel Jardine's force is marched against them.

1819.

The pension arrangement, providing for the Chiefs and a few followers, no doubt reduced the strength of the gangs: fewer villages were attacked, but

the number of murders, robberies, and house-breakings was by no means reduced. Expeditions sent against Kania, Dusrut, and Kooer Wusawa, in the Satpoora, and against Chiel Naik in the Satmulla range; Chiel apprehended and hanged. The whole province a scene of utter confusion, the village police aiding the plunderers, and the devastation carried on with impunity.

Raising a Bheel Corps under consideration, but the Political Agent reports the Bheels as unfit for sepoys, and recommends that all Bheels in the province receive Rs. 2 per mensem. Both plans negatived; Sebundees and regular troops sent to garrison the passes, but are withdrawn, disabled by the climate, and Goomania and the other Naiks re-established on double allowance.

The Raol of Kurroond placed at the head of Sebundees, to keep the road from Sindwa to Thalnair.

Chumar Wulvee and fifty of his clan killed by the Gaekwar Bheels, and Kooer Wusawa tenders his submission; Luximon Parvee taken, and pardoned. Troops still out among the Satpoora.

Boorha Khan and Meer Khan come in, and receive pensions of Rs. 12 and Rs. 8 per mensem.

The Political Agent considers the power of the Satpoora Bheels to be on the decline, but military operations are carried on as before. Ramjee, Oochit, and Soobhania plundering all about the Satpoora.

Soobhania seized, but escapes; Rs. 1,000 reward offered for Ramjee; Soobhania comes in, and receives Rs. 200 pension.

Kania and Dusrut give themselves up, and are entertained, with fifty followers, for the Rawere district.

Jania receives Rs. 600 per annum, and Dusrut Rs. 360, to protect the Dowlutbaree Pass.

Ramjee and Rylia delivered up by Soobhania.

Dhun Sing, of Amba, receives a pension of Rs. 360 per annum to keep quiet.

The Government proclamation promulgated, that all Bheels returning to their villages shall be provided with grain by the Patels. The Silput Raja and the Dang Bheels threaten the western frontier.

The Ajunta Bheels, under Jundhoola and Jukria, out in every direction in great force, and the adjacent districts reduced to a state of utter misery.

Severe steps are determined upon, and military operations again commenced.

1820.

Oochit cuts down a Patel, and takes to the hills.

Dusrut again breaks out, and is joined by the famous Pindaree Shaik Dulloo; Jundhoola, Jukria, and Mohun, with twelve hundred followers, surrender to Major Morin.

Sindwa road impassable,—the scene of constant murders and robberies; and Nowapoor attacked.

Another settlement made with Dusrut; military operations still continued in every direction.

Soormul Rookroo and Gomajee come in.
Oochit and Soobhania becoming daily more troublesome.
Boodroo Khan and Shaik Dulla infest the eastward; Khundoo Naik murdered in attempting to seize Oochit; military operations carried on in the west and north-east.
Major Morin simultaneously occupies posts for one hundred miles, at the foot of the hills, and obliges the southern Bheel Chiefs to surrender, with their followers.
Palajee Deshmook taken, and executed for murder and marauding. Kooer Wusawa, of Sagbarra, ravaging Nowapoor and Kookurmoonda with four hundred followers.
Soormul escapes.
Troops marched to the Satmulla range, where Ankoos and Duggur were making head.
Soorungana plundered by the Dang Bheels, and Kooer Wusawa still in arms.
No application has been as yet made by any Bheel for the allowance of grain offered by Government for their maintenance.

1821.

The Dang Bheels plunder Oomurpauth.
No decrease in gang robbery.
Soormul and Oochit again seized.
Ankoos and Duggur in force among the southern range, devastating the plains.
A formidable body of freebooters assembled in the Arrawud district.
Military operations continued, without success.
Oochit dies in jail.
The subject of the police again discussed. The Political Agent approves of the Jaglia system, but puts little faith in the pension arrangement.
The Bheel Chiefs remain quiet for a time.

1822.

Gangs of Bheels plundering the province in every direction.
The Nahals commit dreadful depredations in Khandesh and Nimar, under Russoola Naik.
The Dang Chiefs submit on the appearance of the force sent to the hills.
The Burgaum and Erundole districts infested with three large gangs under the control of the famous fleet Heeria; Saiboo comes in, and is entertained to preserve the peace of the Chaleesgaum district.

1823.

The Political Agent leaves Khandesh.
During his administration, continued settlements had been made only to be broken, and force employed, by which for a time submission was obtained.

When the Collector took charge, the Nahals were still plundering in the Satpoora.

Ankoos among the Satmulla, and Heeria in the districts of Burgaum and Erundole.

Russoola seized, and Poonia killed.

The Dang Bheels threaten the district of Nowapoor.

1824.

The Bheels in the surrounding ranges continue their aggressions in the most daring manner.

Saheb Khan joins the insurgents.

Anund apprehended.

Goomania refuses to deliver up delinquents traced to his Huttee; operations commenced against him.

Roop and his brother Yeshwunt seized.

Goomania taken, and transported.

Large detachments under Major Deschamp moved against the Aranudee Chiefs, who nevertheless continue their daily attacks on villages.

The Mamlutdars report the extreme alarm of the people.

The military force penetrates into the hills.

The Bheels, as usual, disperse for the time, and heavy rewards for the apprehension of the leaders are vainly offered.

1825.

A serious insurrection takes place in Bauglan.

Sewram, a blacksmith, producing forged papers from the Raja of Satara, entices the Bauglan Bheels to his standard, his intrigues extending to the Dang and to the Satpoora range. Attacks and plunders Untapoor with a party of eight hundred men, and carries off the spoil to the hill fort of Molair.

Ray Sing threatens the Purgunas of Kanapoor and Pimplee, and the Dang Bheels appear in force at the passes.

A detachment of the local regiment arrives in time to repel an attack on the town of Molair, and shortly after Lieutenant Outram surprises and disperses the insurgents, and recovers a great part of the plunder.

Sewram is seized and sent in by Govind Naik, and the greater portion of the Bheels who had been engaged in the rebellion came in and received pardon, many agreeing to set up ploughs; the necessary arrangements are made by Mr. Graham, the Second Assistant Collector.

The country still continues in a very disturbed state, and crime does not decrease.

The formation of a Bheel Corps, together with conciliatory measures, ordered by the Court of Directors.

Chains of military posts are established along the foot of the hills, to intercept supplies, and to act immediately upon information.

Mr. Graham, Second Assistant, deputed to arrange some settlement with the Bheels of the Satmulla. Hill fort of Kuneera, in the centre of the hills, garrisoned.

Dharia Naik seized on the proclamation of a reward of Rs. 2,000.

Rore Naik, Sutwa, Kishna, and Byajee settled.

Dadnia seized.

The village Patels discovered to be in league with the Bheels.

Bheel Punchayets established, to settle caste disputes.

Pandoo apprehended.

Robberies and murders still frequent, and roads entirely unsafe.

Tendya and Bundee, with large gangs, disturbing the peace.

Pandoo and Sutwa seized.

Lieutenant Outram, after incredible difficulty, succeeds in obtaining a few recruits.

Captain Ovans prosecutes the system of reform in the southward; Tukavee granted, and lands allotted; encounters endless difficulty in settling the wild Bheels of the Satmulla.

Captain Rigby, residing in the midst of their haunts, exerts a salutary influence over the Chiefs of the Western Agency.

1826.

A gang plundering Burgaum.

The Sindwa Ghat shut by Dhun Sing, and Soobhania returned from transportation.

Sooltanpoor plundered.

Depredations from the Dang.

Detachments sent against Deochund, and thirty of his followers killed in Sooltanpoor; but Soobhania repulses the party of regulars sent against him, wounding twenty-two sepoys and some horse.

Dhun Sing comes in on Kowl; detachment against Soobhania reinforced. He is seized by Rania Naik, and is sent to Dhoolia Jail, where he dies.

The Kookurmoonda Agent recommends a force to be sent to punish severely the Dang Chieftains in their own country.

The system of reformation continues; upwards of three hundred ploughs established.

Tendya apprehended.

Bowajee murdered.

The Loharra Bheels plundering the country.

Detachments sent against them; the Deshmooks discovered as countenancing the Bheel plunderers.

Bodwur disturbed by large gangs.

Two notorious Bheel leaders seized by the reformed Bheels.

The Jaglias gradually returning, but much persuasion required to induce them to turn to agriculture.

The Bheel levy amounts to two hundred recruits, who are inspected by the Collector.

1827.

A gang, formed under Khundoo and Mahadeo, near Sindwa, attacks the village of Boorwaree.

Lieutenant Outram, with a detachment of the Bheel Corps, surprises them after a night march: the gang is completely dispersed, with the loss of one of its leaders killed, and several of the followers.

A Jemadar and seven of the corps wounded on this occasion.

The corps recruited to the number of six hundred, who were at the close of the monsoon inspected and reviewed by the Brigadier commanding the province.

The Agent to the southward reports the colonies as increasing, and also his success in settling many of the predatory Bheels on the east frontier of Jamnair, who were reckoned as the wildest of the tribes.

No robberies of importance have occurred for many months.

The troops of the line are relieved from outpost duty by the Bheel Corps.

The Kookurmoonda Agency abolished, and the control of the feudatory Chiefs and Naiks transferred to the Second Assistant, placed permanently in these districts.

A Bheel Agent appointed by His Highness the Nizam.

1828.

The Collector reports that for the last six months the country has, for the first time during twenty years, enjoyed repose.

The Bheel Corps is employed throughout the province, in pursuing foreign marauders, escorting prisoners and treasure, and furnishing outposts in situations where no one can exist during the rains except Natives of the spot.

1829.

No complaint preferred during the season against any member of the corps.

A school established at head quarters, to teach the Bheel sepoys and their children.

The Dang Bheels plunder the villages of Naguree and Chorewur.

Bheel parties are posted along the frontier, to prevent further aggressions, until the season admits of military operations.

The Magistrate reports the great decrease of crime throughout the Agencies, and bears testimony to the high character the Bheel Corps has gained.

Large gangs assemble on the frontiers, restrict their depredations to the Nizam's territories, and are dispersed after much trouble.

1830.

All the available force of the Bheel Corps and Auxiliary Horse, together with a strong detachment of regular troops, march on the Dang. A severe and harassing campaign ensues, owing to the excessively difficult nature of the country, the rapid movements of the Bheels, and the assistance universally afforded to the enemy by the Gaekwar's officers.

Every Chief, however, was at length seized and brought to Khandesh, where the claims of each were thoroughly sifted and settled.

Great sickness prevailed among the troops after their return from the Dang.

The cultivating Bheels in the Agency gradually progressing in the work of reformation.

1831.

The Turvees are in a very disturbed state, plundering the north-east part of the province.

A detachment of the Bheel Corps is marched under Lieutenant Outram to Yawul: 469 Turvees are apprehended, and 158 sentenced by the Criminal Judge. Major Ovans reports the increasing prosperity and reformation of his colonies, and the total success which has crowned his arduous labours.

641 Bheels at the plough.

8,024 beegas under cultivation.

1832.

Province remains quiet.

The Bheel Corps entrusted with the charge of the district treasuries.

113 villages re-established in Chaleesgaum, Burgaum, and Jamnair.

1833.

The Naiks, Esniah and Hutniah, plunder several villages in the Sooltanpoor district.

A large detachment of Bheel Corps and horse penetrate the Satpoora Mountains, scour the strongest passes to the banks of the Nerbudda, and seize the two insurgent Chiefs, together with all the Naiks engaged in the disturbance.

533 Jaglias established in the Southern Agency.

1835.

Parties of the Bheel Corps distinguish themselves at Boorhanpoor, Oomerawutee, and Aurungabad, in apprehending Thugs.

Sindia's districts restored, and crime greatly increases throughout the province.

1836.

Rewards granted by the Magistrate to several individuals of the Bheel Corps, for the successful capture of malefactors.

The Collector inspects the school of the Bheel Corps, and reports his gratification to find that fifty boys of different tribes have reached a most useful proficiency, and applauds the measure, as calculated to raise the race from its former degraded state.

Dusrut's son established on the Dowlutbaree Pass.

The South Bheel Agent reports the progressive prosperity of his colonies.

The small pecuniary advance expended as assistance, together with the satisfactory return of increased tillage, leave no doubt as to the thriving state of the settlements.

The Bheel Corps having now arrived at a perfect state of discipline, and containing within itself such a number of influential persons of each tribe in the province, no individual can remain in the country at large if his apprehension be required by the Magistrate.

1839.

The Dang Chiefs plunder the villages of Oomurpauth and Umboorpara; detachments of the Bheel Corps moved to the top of the Ghats.

All the Chiefs on the first summons attend the Bheel Agent, and an unconditional restoration of all the plundered property is followed by a pardon for the aggression; the claims of the Chiefs are again examined and settled.

A regiment of the line withdrawn from the province.

1840.

Purtab Sing, Raja of Amallee, Southern Dang, allows his followers to plunder British villages, and refuses to obey the summons of the Magistrate.

The Bheel Agent, with a small party of the corps and horse, after a forced march of sixty miles, surprises his principal location, and seizes his family, flocks, and arms.

Purtab Sing surrenders at discretion on the following day; a company of Bheels, for the protection of his frontier, raised by His Highness the Nizam.

1841.

A large party of Bheels, from the province of Ahmednuggur, plunder the Government treasury at Pimpulnair, which had been left without adequate means of defence.

The marauders followed over the border by a party of the Bheel Corps: much intelligence obtained, together with a portion of the plunder; and, with the assistance of the civil authorities of Ahmednuggur, the gang was eventually secured.

Bhamnia Naik attacks a village in Sooltanpoor.

The Bheel Agent moves through the Satpoora against the insurgents.

Bhamnia shot near the banks of the Nerbudda, and all the Chiefs of the Satpoora range, who had been engaged in the foray to Khandesh, seized and brought to Dhoolia.

The Mehwasee Chiefs threaten aggression, but, on the appearance of a small force of horse and Bheels, surrender themselves to the Bheel Agent.

1842.

The Turvees are again troublesome on the north-east.

Beekaria and Baughchund plunder the Sowda and Yawul districts.

Operations commenced.

Beekaria seized, and Baughchund killed, and the Chiefs of the hills who had aided in the disturbances seized by parties of the Bheel Corps.

CONTINUATION OF THE FOREGOING SYNOPSIS,

BY CAPTAIN J. ROSE.

1843.

When in 1825 the south-eastern Bheels—those located in, or in the vicinity of, the Satmalla range of hills—were placed under the care of Captain (now Major General) Ovans, the Bheel Agent at Kunhur, with a view to their reformation, those in the west and north-west of the province, including some Bheel and Rajpoot Chiefs, termed Mehwasee, or independent, were entrusted to the management of the late Captain Rigby, as Western Bheel Agent.

This latter Agency was done away with in 1827, on account of the pestilential nature of the climate in some parts of the western districts, and under an impression that the appointment was almost superfluous. This year, however, it became very evident that the Western Bheels and Mehwasee Chiefs were retrograding in civilization and conduct, and a correspondence commenced, with the object of re-establishing the Western Bheel Agency.

The affairs of the Kunhur Bheel Agency this year, as represented in the Agent's annual report, were considered by Government to be in every respect highly satisfactory.

1844.

Steady progress in diligence and good conduct, on the part of the Kunhur Agency cultivating Bheels and school-boys.

The men of the Bheel Corps were this year introduced to a species of warfare of which they had never before had any experience. An old Rajpoot Patel of a village lately ceded to Government by Sindia would not obey legal process, or conform in any way to the behests of the Government Native officials, whose duties brought them in contact with him as Patel. On being pressed to act and assist in the village affairs like other Patels, he contumaciously refused, and, raising the standard of rebellion, shut the gates of a strong little Ghuree or fort he had prepared, and defied the Government.

He was a landholder of the old regime, and had actively participated in the atrocities which were formerly permitted, if not encouraged. He had caused the death of hundreds of unfortunate Bheels in cold blood, and, by a singular chance, the descendants of his numerous victims were those destined to inflict retribution.

A detachment of the line and a couple of nine-pounder guns from the Malligaum brigade assisted the Bheel Corps in impetuously storming the fort, which was taken after an obstinate, well-sustained resistance, which ended in the Patel, Munsaram, being killed by a shot, through the head, from the musket of one of the attacking sharp-shooters.

1845.

Western Bheel Agency re-established.

The Agent found the Western Mehwasee Chiefs surrounded with bands of worthless, unruly mercenaries, Arabs, Sindees, Mukranees, &c., all clamourous for large sums, which they demanded as their wages, and in payment of cash loans they had given their employers, at enormous rates of interest. The seven Mehwasee Chiefs* were entirely in the power of these men.

The newly appointed Bheel Agent, having carefully examined the nature of these pecuniary claims, awarded an equitable amount to each claimant, which, with the approval of Government, having been paid to them from the income of the Chiefs, the disbanded rabble were sent to Bombay, and shipped away to their respective countries; security being at the same time taken from the Chiefs against their again entertaining or sheltering such troublesome, worthless people.

Clear proof was discovered of one of these Chiefs, Rana Gunput Sing, of Boodawul, having been concerned in robbery and other atrocities. He was therefore sent to Dhoolia, to be kept under surveillance,—open arrest, as it were,—on a portion of his income, the remainder being applied to the liquidation of his just debts, which were ascertained to amount to Rs. 31,752-2-6, and the management of his estate was given to the Western Bheel Agent.

An examination of the debts of the Chiklee Chief, Kooer Jeewa Wusawa, was also this year made by the Western Bheel Agent, who, after striking out large items of interest, which had accumulated on unheard of banking principles, found the total debt to be Rs. 18,674-2-3.

To pay off this, Government authorised a portion of his revenues to be set apart, and his estate was temporarily placed under the care of the Western Bheel Agent.

A considerable number of Bheels under the Western Bheel Agency were this year enabled to become cultivators, by receiving pecuniary help, and a rent-free lease of land from Government. Bheel colonies were established along the Sindwa Ghat line of road, a deserted and pestilential tract, where robberies were formerly frequent.

For a history of these Chiefs, vide pages 173 to 178, and 188 to 196, of this Selection.

The effect of this step has been almost total freedom from robbery thereabouts for some years past, and the clearance of the jungle for cultivating purposes appears to be gradually causing a favourable change in the climate of that locality.

A very apparent diminution in the number of robberies in the town of Nundoorbar and its neighbourhood took place immediately on the Western Bheel Agent being established there.

Kooer Wusawa, the Chief of the Chiklee Mehwasee estate, who was at the head of the Nundoorbar Talooka Police, was strongly suspected of conniving at instead of endeavouring to suppress crime within his charge.

1846.

Government erected a house at Nundoorbar, for the use of the Western Bheel Agent.

Kooer Wusawa, disliking the affairs of his estate to be interfered with for the payment of his debts, and probably fearful that his misdeeds as head of the Nundoorbar Talooka Police would be discovered, and brought against him, suddenly threw off his allegiance, and, as a rebel, took to the jungle with an armed band, the Chief of which was a vicious Arab.

As the rebel obstinately refused to listen to the oft-repeated expostulations and offers of pardon made to him by Government through the Collector and Magistrate, it was at last found necessary to send a detachment, consisting of part of the Malligaum brigade, Poona Irregular Horse, and Bheel Corps, to bring him to order. These troops came upon his encampment by surprise, but he was not captured till a sharp skirmish, accompanied with some bloodshed, had taken place.

He was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment, for raising rebellion, but was released, as an act of grace, from jail in October 1854, before the term of his sentence had expired, and found his debts in the mean time had all been paid off, and that he was several thousand rupees before the world.

His standing in society was however gone, and his son had been constituted proprietor of the estate, his own personal allowance being for the future fixed at Rs. 50 per month, in addition to the interest on Rs. 6,000 which have been funded on his account in the Government five per cent. Public Works Loan.

Number of Bheel cultivators under the Western Agency increased.

Part of the Bheel Corps having volunteered for service in the Deccan and Konkun, against the notorious freebooter Ragojee Bangria, had been for some months engaged in the arduous attempt to capture the outlaw, under the immediate orders of their Commandant.

On their return to Khandesh, Government highly applauded the Bheels for so cheerfully leaving their homes and families to enter on a hard course of marching and pursuit, at a bad season of the year, in a most difficult country, and among a wild and strange population.

1847.

General peace, good order, and improvement throughout the province.
The census taken this year made the Bheel population amount to 63,748.

1848.

Nothing demanding remark in connection with the Bheel population occurred this year, beyond the establishment of a school at Kookurmoonda, for the education of the sons of the Western Chiefs and Bheels, under the superintendence of the Western Bheel Agent.
The census this year showed the Bheel population of the province to be rapidly increasing, the figure being 73,293.

1849.

Good order prevalent over the whole province.
Rs. 3,000 were sanctioned by Government for clearing the jungle bordering the Sindwa Ghat line of road, and the money was laid out, and the work executed, under the supervision of the Western Bheel Agent, Bheels being the principal class employed.

1850.

A young Bheel Chieftain, Ramsing, the son of Kooer Wusawa, this year, with his own free consent, went to Poona to study in the College there. His cousin, by name Sonjee, accompanied him. For some time their behaviour was such as to give hope of their turning out well, but as they grew in years a change took place, and after giving a great deal of trouble to Major Candy, the Principal of the College, Ramsing absconded, and could not be discovered for several months, when he was found near Malligaum.
Sonjee remained at the College, but his heart was elsewhere, in the western jungles, to which he was finally permitted to return.
The conduct of both these youths is up till now (1856) far from steady and satisfactory.

1851.

The Kunhur and Western Bheel Agency affairs favourably reported on, the Bheel amelioration system being steadily pursued towards them, and extended to some of the Pardhee tribe (noted thieves), in the Thalnair and Nundoorbar Talookas.
The Rana of Boodawul died at Dhoolia of disease this year, leaving Rs. 23,617-14-9 of his debts unpaid. All possible search has since been made to discover an heir to the Boodawul estate, but as none can be found it must lapse to the British Government.

1852.

Nothing of note connected with the Bheels this year.
The Ryut population of the Sowda Talooka having, through ignorance,

evinced a riotous disposition to resist the introduction of the revenue survey, some of the Bheel Corps formed part of a force sent to restore order. Military interference, however, was not required, as the Ryuts were convinced of the foolishness of their opposition, when the benefit they would derive from the survey rates of taxation was fully explained to them.

1853.

The Bheels, and all connected with the province, in a state of peace and improvement.

In addition to their former duties, the Bheel Agents were created Superintendents and Assistant Superintendents of Police, which considerably increased their labour, and occupied their time.

1854.

The new police system rendered it necessary this year to withdraw the district peons, who had from the commencement of the Bheel reform been stationed at almost every Bheel village, to look after the inhabitants, who, however, took no advantage of being thus left more to themselves, but continued in every respect as well behaved as before.

1855.

The Bheel Agency and police duties of *four* European officers have during the whole of this year devolved upon *two*, without any perceptible bad effect, except that on the health of the officers doing constant double duty.

APPENDIX B.

SPECIMEN OF THE LANGUAGE USED BY BHEELS WHEN IN SECRET CONVERSATION WITH EACH OTHER, OR ON MARAUDING EXPEDITIONS.

Bheel Language.	English.
Motaba	Old man.
Bond	Thief.
Goha	House.
Gurrada	Road.
Pannee	Water.

Bheel Language.	English.
Wurrat	Rain.
Dungra	Bullock.
Gaeedy	Cow.
Dungree	Buffalo.
Kookdee	Hen.
Bung	Tobacco.
Fokud	Deer.
Dongree	A small hill.
Hone	Gold.
Boombo	Ashes.
Puheyo	Pice, or copper coin.
Gundar	Heat.
Heem	Cold.
Doung Koplee	Bow and arrow.
Koho	Crowbar.
Loee	Blood.
Khadee	Wound.
Hode Hode	Quick.
Dheer	Slow.
Dowa	To hold.
Moagia	Died.
Boho	Sit down.
Too kesso guya	Where had you been?
Daihai boodee jy	The sun sets.
Hakal	Morning.
Soulai jana	We shall go ourselves.
Bueel jaoo	We shall go both.
Chara pada jaoo	We shall go to bring grass.
Chibda	Cucumber.
Busaira	Foal.
Poho	Son.
Pohee	Girl.
Wungu	Bunnia.
Thaiee	Wife.
Bubee	Sister.
Baba	Brother.
Kagda	Crow.
Hap	Snake.
Missee	Scorpion.
Handul	Earthen pot.
Panda	A pot.

Bheel Language.	English.
Hoka	Eggs.
Khahada	Shoe.
Dugda	Private.
Thaiodee	Thore, tree.
Haido	Savega, tree.
Koda	Crab.
Vode	A hedge.

(Signed) D. C. GRAHAM, Captain,
Bheel Agent.

APPENDIX C.

REGISTER OF THE DISPOSAL OF THE MOST FORMIDABLE OF THE BHEEL LEADERS.

No.	Names.	Remarks.	
1	Jewa Wusawa	Dead	All these Chiefs could each of them muster gangs amounting from 50 to 500 men.
2	Chumar Wulvee	Killed	
3	Rana Anund Sing	At his village	
4	Rana Chunder Sing	Dead	
5	Deojee Naik	At his village	
6	Soobhania Naik	Transported	
7	Rylia Naik	Died in prison	
8	Oochit Naik	Died in prison	
9	Ramjee Naik	Died in prison	
10	Khundoo Naik	Murdered by Oochit	
11	Roopsing Naik	At his village	
12	Goomania Naik	Dead	
13	Gunjee Naik	Killed in action	
14	Dusrut Naik	Dead	
15	Rookroo Naik	Transported	
16	Soormul Naik	Do.	
17	Meer Khan	Residing in Rawair	
18	Boorhan Khan		
19	Russoola Naik	Murdered	
20	Kania Naik	At his village	
21	Jundhoola Naik	Transported	
22	Jukria Naik		
23	Chiel Naik	Executed	
24	Ankoos Naik	Transported	
25	Dugroo Naik	Killed in fight	

No.	Names.	Remarks.	
26	Rore Naik	Received Kowl	All these Chiefs could each of them muster gangs amounting from 50 to 500 men.
27	Saiboo Naik.....		
28	Soobul Naik		
29	Buchoo Naik		
30	Dharia Naik	Transported.....	
31	Bundia Naik	Received Kowl	
32	Sendya Naik	Transported.....	
33	Lallia Naik	Died as outlaws	
34	Nagyee Naik		
35	Kass Naik		
36	Byajee Naik.....	Received Kowl and settled.	
37	Ankoosia Naik.....	Killed in battle	
38	Heeria Naik.....	Died an outlaw	
39	Dugroo Naik	Do.	
40	Sungrea Naik	Transported.....	
41	Teeklya Naik	Do.	
42	Sutwa Naik.....	Hung	
43	Rama Naik.....	Died an outlaw	
44	Buddoo Naik	Do.	
45	Gokul Naik.....	Do.	
46	Luximon Naik.....	Do.	
47	Govindya Naik	Do.	
48	Bowanee Naik.....	Do.	

(Signed) D. C. GRAHAM, Captain,
Bheel Agent.

APPENDIX D.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING THE PAST AND PRESENT STATE (1843) OF THE FORCE EMPLOYED FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE THREE DISTRICTS OF THE SOUTHERN AGENCY.

BEFORE THE SETTLEMENT.	European Officers.	Native Commissioned & Non-Commissioned Officers, and Rank and File.
In the Chaleesgaum Talooka.		
Regular troops of the line.....	1	119
Sebundees of the other districts of Khandesh	..	85
Irregular horse	..	25
In the Burgaum Talooka.		
Regular troops of the line.....	1	101
Irregular horse	..	51
In the Jamnair Talooka.		
Irregular horse	..	25

As the Bheel settlements came into operation, the regulars were gradually reduced, as well as the irregular horse and extra Mahal Sebundees, and the whole of the troops of the line were recalled to Malligaum, and their posts made over to detachments of the Bheel Corps.

The following statement shows the present distribution (1843) of the detachments of the Bheel Corps as well as of the parties of irregular horse, in undermentioned Talookas:—

In the Chaleesgaum Talooka.

Kunhur, detachment of the Bheel Corps	...	...	24
Jateegaum,	do.	do.	... 9
Chaleesgaum,	do.	do.	... 20
Chaleesgaum and other villages, irregular horse			... 13

In the Burgaum Talooka.

Burgaum, detachment of the Bheel Corps			... 25
Burgaum and other villages, irregular horse			... 7

In the Jamnair Talooka.

Jamnair, detachment of the Bheel Corps			... 25
Jamnair and other villages, irregular horse			... 10

Thus it appears that since the Bheel settlement has been completed, a reduction of two European officers and two hundred and twenty regulars of all ranks, with their field equipments, has been effected, eighty-five Mahal Sebundees have returned to their districts, and the services of seventy-one irregular horse have been dispensed with, the protection of the country being now entrusted to one hundred and three reformed Bheels of the Bheel Corps, and to the reformed Naiks and Bheels now settled in the different districts and villages.

In like manner, all other outposts held by regular troops throughout Khandesh have been relieved by parties of the Bheel Corps, with the exception of the head quarter station of Dhoolia.

The Southern Agency is purposely taken as a specimen, containing the only districts of the province where the original plan of Government has been fully carried through, and where the system has been really introduced, and allowed to have fair play.

Statement of Advances and Balances due by the Bheel Colonies in the Chaleesgaum, Burgaum, and Jamnair Talookas, under the Kunhur Agency.

	Total Annual Advances.	Recoveries.	Written off	Balance outstanding on 30th April.	Number of Ploughs.	Number of Beegas.	Number of Jaglas settled.	No. of Boys at School.
Total..	85,348 2 0	14,137 4 7	23,083 11 8	16,961 0 0	597	6,646-8	450	14

Remarks.

No. 1.—This general statement exhibits the whole outlay, the whole recoveries, &c. for the whole period of reform; the outlay amounts to Rs. 85,348-2-6, of which Rs. 44,137-4-7 have been actually recovered, and Rs. 23,088-11-8 written off as loss on account of deaths, desertion, &c., which, added to the sums recovered, make a sum of Rs. 67,226-0-3, to which add exchange Rs. 1,160-11-6, and the present outstanding balance, Rs. 16,961-6-9, form the total outlay of Rs. 85,348-2-6.

No. 2.—The number of Bheels at present at the plough is 597. The land cultivated is beegas 6,646-8.

No. 3.—The village watchmen settled amount to 450.

No. 4.—The number of Bheel children at present at school are fourteen.

Strength of the Khandesh Bheel Corps in September 1843.

	Regulars.									Bheesties.	Bheels.						Boy Establishment.
	Subedar Major.	Subedars.	Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naiques.	Bugle Major.	Buglers.	Acting Buglers.	Privates.		Subedars.	Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naiques.	Privates.	Total.	
Present for duty	1	1	1	4	2	1	5	.	7	7	1	1	7	4	121	134	..
On duty	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	3	..	1	..	1	3	26	31	2
Attending drill	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	43	43	21
Sick	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	1	5	6	..
On furlough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	6	1
Piteewallas and orderlies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	12	12	..
In command	..	2	1	1	2	..	1	1	25	2	5	6	39	41	525	616	..
Total..	1	3	3	5	5	1	7	1	47	10	7	7	47	49	738	848	24

The proportion of duty required from a regiment of the line is one-third of strength.

The Bheel Corps performs duties for which upwards of three-fourths of its re strength are required.

Only two European officers are allowed, whilst the numerous outposts, scattered over a large province, require continual personal inspection, and cannot sibly be relieved under a term of six or seven years.

Troops of the line are relieved after three months.

(Signed) D. C. Graham, Captain,
Bheel Agent.

APPENDIX E.

Strength of Detachments of the Bheel Corps in September 1843.

	Regulars.								2nd Native Hospital Assistants.	Bheels.						
	Subedars.	Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naiques.	Buglers.	Acting do.	Privates.	Total.		Bheesties.	Subedars.	Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naiques.	Privates.	Total.
Jateegaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	7	9
Chaleesgaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	2	15	19
Burgaum	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	1	1	1	20	23
Jamnair	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	3	..	..	..	..	2	1	19	22
Nairee	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4
Bodwur	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	13	15
Rungaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	10	12
Sowda	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	3	22	27
Rawair	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	12	14
Arrawud	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	13	15
Seerpoor	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	13	15
Shada	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	19	22
Dhurgaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	7
Koorkurmoonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	4	2	24	31
Nundoorbar	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	1	1	1	20	23
Jvetana	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	10	12
Sakree	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	1	1	1	13	16
Pimpulnair	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	2	2	25	30
Nowapoor	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	1	1	12	14
Warsa	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	1	..	1	1	13	16
Molair	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	2	1	21	24
Dhoolia	1	..	..	..	1	1	7	10	1	2	..	2	11	9	158	180
Amulnair	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4
Erundole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	7	8
Total Detachments	2	1	1	2	1	1	24	32	2	2	5	6	37	35	479	562
Escort.																
With the 1st Assist. Collector	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	9	11
With the Engineer	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4
With the Agent at Kunhur	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	3	19	23
On service with Captain Morris	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	15	16
Total Escort	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	2	6	46	54
Total	2	1	1	2	1	1	25	33	2	2	5	6	39	41	525	616
															Grand Total	653

Up to September 1843, 1,800 Bheels had been passed through the ranks of the corps to their entire civilization. The discharged members dwell quietly at their respective villages as Wutundars, cultivators, or Jaglas, and the sums of money as Tukavee, given at various times to relations on the responsibility of members of the corps, have been all scrupulously repaid by the Bheel sepoy.

The average number of scholars who daily attend the Bheel school at head quarters is about 30.

(Signed) D. C. Graham, Captain, Bheel Agent.

APPEN

Monthly Return, showing the actual Strength and Stations

	Regulars and Local.						
	Subedar Major.	Subedars.	Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naiques.	Bugle Major.	Buglers.
Sanctioned strength	1	3	3	7	7	1	11
Actual strength, as per morning report 1st February 1856.	1	3	3	7	7	1	8
Stations.							
1. Dhoolia..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
2. Songhur..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3. Amulnair	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
4. Betawud	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
5. Erandole	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
6. Patonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
7. Burgaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8. Pachora..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9. Chaleesgaum..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. Loanair..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
11. Sutana	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
12. Abhoona	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
13. Pimpulnair	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
14. Jyetana	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
15. Nowapoor	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
16. Nundoorbar	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
17. Sindkheira	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
18. Shada	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19. Tulloda..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20. Seerpoor	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21. Chopra	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22. Yawul	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23 Sowda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
24. Rawair	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25. Nusseerabad..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26. Kaulda..		..	..	..	..	..	..
27. Jamnair..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
28. Bodwur..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..

DIX F.

of the Bheel Corps on the 1st February 1856.

							Bheels.						
Acting Buglers.	Privates.	Total.	Apothecary.	First Hospital Assistant.	Second Hospital Assistant.	Bheesties.	Subedars.	Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naiques.	Privates.	Total.	Boys.
..	60	93	1	1	2	12	9	9	53	54	928	1,053	..
3	60	93	1	1	1	12	9	9	53	54	912	1,037	28
1	12	14	..	..	1	1	..	1	13	7	158	179	1
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	6	7	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	9	11	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	9	11	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	10	12	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	11	13	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	7	8	..
..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	20	23	..
..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	9	11	..
..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	16	18	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	7	8	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	20	22	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	6	7	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	13	15	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	14	16	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	6	8	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	10	12	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6	7	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	6	8	..
..	2	3	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	9	10	..
..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10	10	..

APPENDIX F

	Regulars and Local.						
	Subedar Major.	Subedars.	Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naiques.	Bugle Major.	Buglers.
29. Borenar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
30. Saindoornee	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
31. Jateegaum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
32. Molair	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
33. Warsa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
34. Kookurmoonda	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
35. Dhurgaum	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
36. Arrawud	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
37. Mhyjee Fair (for two months)	..	1	..	2	..	..	1
38. With the Collector	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
39. Ditto 1st Assistant Collector	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
40. Ditto Agent at Kunhur	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
41. Ditto Western Bheel Agent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
42. Ditto Superintendent of Revenue Survey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
43. With Mr. Naro Vitul, Deputy Collector	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
44. Ditto Mr. Shreeput Vitul, do. do.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	..	2	..	5	4	..	1
At Head Quarters	1	1	3	2	3	1	7
28 Boys at school, receiving the pay of 14 men*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wanting to complete	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	1	3	3	7	7	1	8

* 28 Boys receive each Rs. 2½ per month as subsistence,

(continued).

Acting Buglers.	Privates.	Total.	Apothecary.	First Hospital Assistant.	Second Hospital Assistant.	Bheesties.	Bheels. Subedars.	Jemadars.	Havildars.	Naiques.	Privates.	Total.	Boys.
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	4	5	..
..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	18	20	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	10	12	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	14	16	..
..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	13	14	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	9	11	..
..	12	16	..	..	..	2	2	..	8	8	119	137	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8	..
..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	11	13	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	11	12	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	4	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3	4	..
1	42	55	..	..	1	3	7	5	41	44	657	754	1
2	18	38	1	1	..	9	2	4	12	10	255	283	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14	14	..
..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..
3	60	93	1	1	2	12	9	9	53	54	928	1,053	1

which is equivalent to 14 Sepoys, on Rs. 5 per month.

(Signed) J. Rose, Captain,
Bheel Agent.

APPENDIX G.

Statement of Advances made to, recovered and irrecoverable from, and Balances still due by, the Bheel, Pardhee, and Ryut Colonists in the Baugulan, Nundoorbar, Soultanpoor, and Thalnair Talookas, under the Western Bheel Agency, from its re-establishment up to the 31*st July* 1855.

	Total Annual Advances.	Recoveries.	Written off as irrecoverable.	Balance outstanding on 31st July 1855.
Total ... Rupees	19,552 8 6	13,796 12 9	132 5 6	5,623 6 3

(Signed) J. Rose, Captain,
Bheel Agent.

APPENDIX H.

Statement of Advances made to, recovered and irrecoverable from, and Balances still due by, the Bheel Colonists in the Chaleesgaum, Burgaum, and Jamnair Talookas, under the Kushur Agency, from its establishment up to the 31*st July* 1855.

	Total Annual Advances.	Recoveries.	Written off.	Balance outstanding on 31st July 1855.
Total ... Rupees	1,03,961 7 9	73,764 4 9	27,149 6 3	3,047 12 9

(Signed) J. Rose, Captain,
Bheel Agent.

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Shri Brihad Bhartiya Samaj
on 24 February, 2020